

St. Joseph's College

SPRING 2011

MAGAZINE



MOVERS & SHAKERS



THE NEW EAGLES' NEST

Construction continues on the Long Island athletic complex, which is slated to open for the fall sports season.

Photo: Robert Amsler





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www.sjcny.edu

Correction: We incorrectly reported the degree Ivy Turnbull '78 received from Northeastern University. She received an L.P.D., not a Ph.D., from Northeastern's College of Professional Studies. We apologize for the error.

Pictured right: Brooklyn Campus, 1946

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WHAT'S NEW ON THE WEB

Check out our coverage of several key lectures on campus.

- The third annual Dr. Reza and Georgianna Clifford Khatib Chair in Comparative Religion lecture by Dr. Chung Hyun Kyung can be found at www.sjcny.edu/khatib2011.

- Also, Alina Fernandez Revuelta, Fidel Castro's illegitimate daughter, spoke to the L.I. Campus. Read her story at www.sjcny.edu/fernandez2011.

- Visit www.sjcny.edu/wilson2011 to read about the 2011 Woodrow Wilson Visiting Fellow lecture by Maria Karagianis.

VIDEOS ON THE WEB

- New York Governor Andrew Cuomo visited the L.I. Campus to give a press conference about this year's budget. See his speech at www.sjcny.edu/video/cuomo.

- Watch the Khatib lecture at www.sjcny.edu/video/khatiblecture.

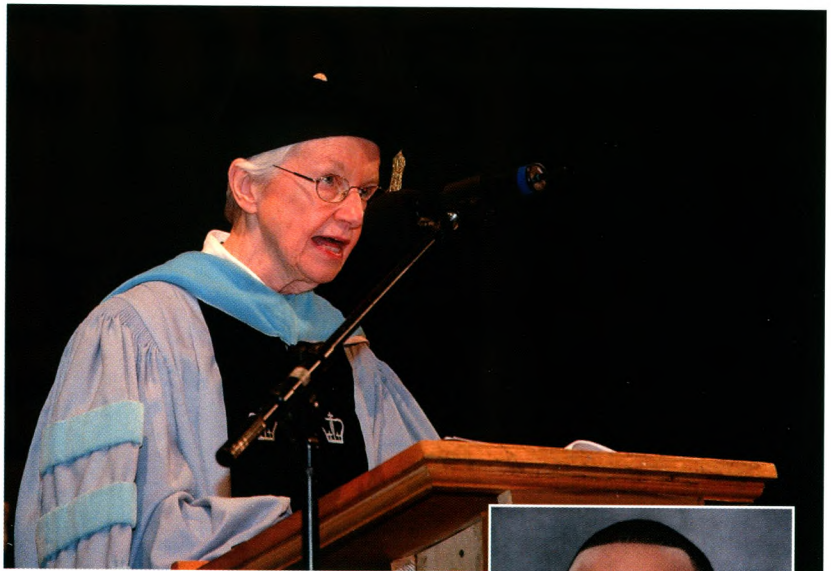
S. Margaret Buckley, C.S.J., and Dr. Shaun McKay to Address SJC Graduates

The College will welcome two distinguished guest speakers to the 92nd spring commencement exercises for the Brooklyn and Long Island campuses on May 28 and 31, respectively.

At Brooklyn commencement, held for the first time at the New York Marriott at the Brooklyn Bridge, SJC will honor one of its own, S. Margaret Buckley, C.S.J., Ed.D. Respected for her longtime dedication to the College, the Class of 1955 alumna is the outgoing academic dean of the Brooklyn School of Arts and Sciences.

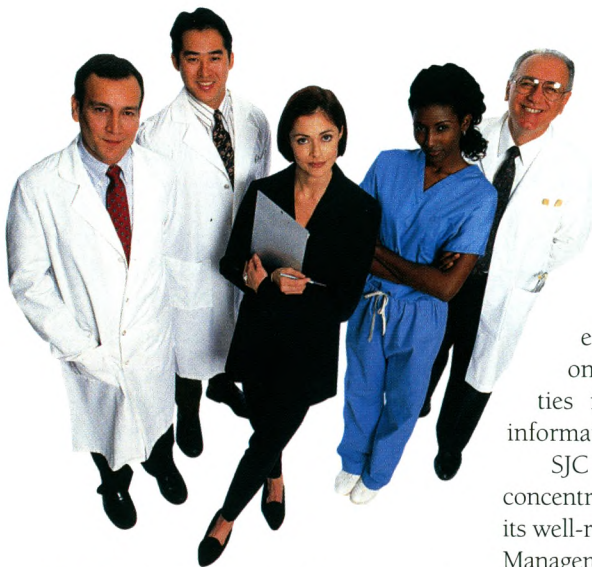
Coming to SJC in 1969, S. Margaret rose through the ranks from instructor in the secondary education department to professor and then to academic dean, holding that position since 1987.

Shaun McKay, Ed.D., the newly elected president of Suffolk County Community College, will address Long Island gradu-



ates at Nassau Coliseum. Dr. McKay joined SCCC in 2005 as the executive dean for the Michael J. Grant Campus in Brentwood. He then served as interim executive vice president of the college prior to his inauguration as president last September.

S. Margaret and Dr. McKay will each receive an honorary Doctor of Letters degree. ■



A New Concentration in Health Care Systems

education and experience. The one constant of these opportunities is a required knowledge of information technology.

SJC has responded by adding a concentration in information systems to its well-respected M.B.A. in Health Care Management curriculum in the School of Professional and Graduate Studies. Offered in the spring 2011 semester, the new concentration allows graduate stu-

dents to enhance their knowledge of the applications that are rapidly transforming the health care industry. The curriculum focuses on the planning, development and implementation of health information systems.

Prospective managers will learn how these systems can improve the delivery of health care with the latest methods and tools for the collection, organization and evaluation of information. ■

The health care field is steadily growing, with a variety of positions for individuals with all levels of

COLLEGE WELCOMES TWO TRUSTEES



Paul Romanello '79, M.D.

Paul Romanello, M.D., and Margaret Mohan Meegan both accepted invitations to join St. Joseph's Board of Trustees.

Dr. Romanello, who received a B.S. in Chemistry in 1979 from the Brooklyn Campus, is a cardiologist at Lenox Hill Hospital on the Upper East Side of Manhattan. He has his own practice and teaches at Downstate Medical Center.

After SJC, he graduated Alpha Omega Alpha (medical honor society) from Upstate Medical Center in 1983, completed his residency at Lenox

Hill and was chief medical resident there from 1986 to 1987. Dr. Romanello is board certified in internal medicine and cardiovascular disease, as well as nuclear cardiology.

Ms. Meegan, a 1969 child study graduate of the Brooklyn Campus, received a master's from Hunter College then a master's in theology from the Catholic Theological Union. A loyal and devoted alumna, Ms. Meegan has remained connected with the

College, serving on the Brooklyn Alumni Association's executive board, and as Spring Reunion Committee chair in 2009. ■



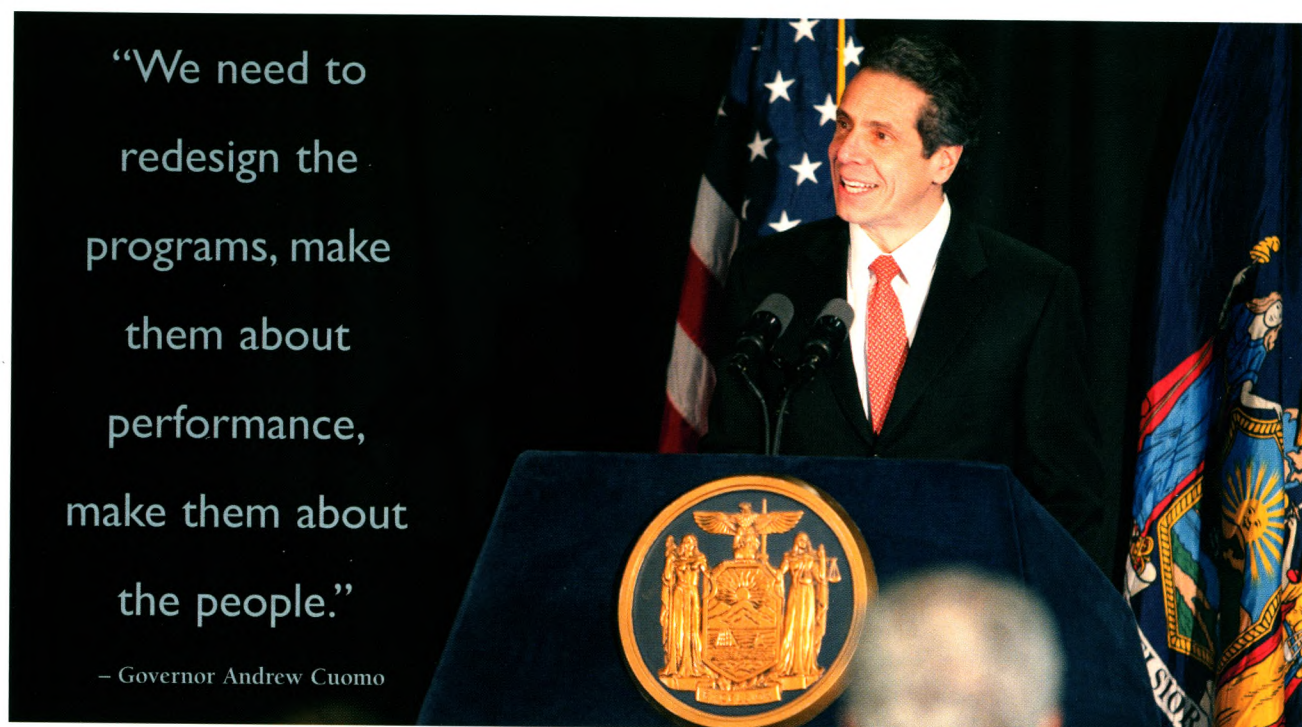
Margaret Mohan Meegan '69

Steve Birkeland

The Home of the Brave



SJC senior and active-duty Coast Guardsman Corinne Powers sang the national anthem at the New York Rangers vs. Buffalo Sabres game on November 11 at Madison Square Garden. She has performed at various professional sporting events, such as boxing matches and NASCAR races.



“We need to
redesign the
programs, make
them about
performance,
make them about
the people.”

— Governor Andrew Cuomo

Cuomo's Proposition

by Brendan Carey • bcarey@sjcny.edu

The College was abuzz with anticipation on February 23 as New York Governor Andrew Cuomo paid a visit to the Long Island Campus. The first-year governor chose SJC as the setting for the Suffolk County stop on a statewide tour presenting his 2011-2012 Executive Budget Proposal.

Major changes are at the heart of the proposal, and Mr. Cuomo made strong points on why these changes were necessary. “We spend too much money, and we spend too much money by almost every indicator,” he said. “You have spending rates in the State of New York that are unsustainable.”

The governor — who picked SJC because it is an impressive institution that has always lived within a balanced budget — made it pretty simple: spending has been increasing at rates greater than revenue, income and inflation. “It’s a basic rule of economics that you can’t spend more than you make,” he said.

Because the state spends too much, the tax rate is the highest in the country. At an average rate of \$4,800 per capita, the income tax rate in New York State is 66 percent higher than the U.S. average. “It is the worst among the states, and if there is one frightening fact for the prognosis of this state, that’s it,” Mr. Cuomo said.

To combat the spending problem, the governor is proposing substantial changes, starting with a 2.7 percent decrease in overall spending for the 2011 fiscal year, which began April 1.

“We need to redesign the programs, make them about performance, make them about the people,” he said. “We need to recalibrate spending to a sustainable rate that we can actually afford, and we need to focus on rebuilding the economy because that’s what it’s all about.”

The redesign starts with Medicaid, where the governor has started a task force to rebuild the state’s health care program so that it provides better services and costs less. Funds would be cut from \$53.8 billion to \$52.8 billion, a two-percent decrease.

Education was second on the list as the governor proposed a 2.9 percent cut in funding. However, a substantial chunk of funding is allocated on a competitive basis to cultivate better performance among the districts. Mr. Cuomo argued that schools and teachers should be rewarded for success, and that the current system was not working.

It’s a polarizing sentiment, and as seen in Wisconsin earlier this year, it can be very political. But the governor remains hopeful that everyone will get on board in New York, regardless of political affiliation.

“One of the problems in Albany ... is that it was too partisan, it was too much about being a democrat and too much about being a republican,” Mr. Cuomo said.

“What we are saying here today, by being here together, is that we are New Yorkers first and we’re going to act that way.” ■

Robert Ansler

JOINING THE

GLOBAL VILLAGE



by Chris Gasiewski • cgasiewski@sjcny.edu

He has traveled to many parts of the world before, yet has never enjoyed an experience like this.

Nathan Saete, assistant director of admissions in Brooklyn, was poking around the Internet looking for a place to journey to last year when he located some volunteer opportunities in Africa.

"I had never been to Africa before," he said. "I thought I would probably get more out of it if I gave back to the community."

So Mr. Saete applied for, and was accepted to, Habitat for Humanity's Global Village volunteer program, which puts volunteers alongside host community members to work on house construction, renovations or disaster relief. He and 15 others from the U.S., Canada and Mexico helped build a home for a family of four last October in Kenya — an experience he will always cherish, and which also sparked interest in repeating the venture.

Amid well-documented violence between Kenyan ethnicities in 2008, and the lingering effects of adopting a new and debated constitution in summer 2010, Mr. Saete noted the turmoil's everlasting presence. "We couldn't wear certain colors," he said. But the citizen's contagious, and quite positive personalities made the experience comfortable.

"They laugh a lot and have an appreciation of small things," he said. "Here, we want the newest gadget. Their sense of humor was so great. They laughed a lot."

Part of the trip entailed Mr. Saete and the 13 other non-leader volunteers raising \$2,000 and paying for their own airfare. The money was then donated into a pool of Kenyans applying for home loans. Upon arrival on October 15, they first learned about the country before making the four-hour drive to the construction site, north of the capital of Nairobi.

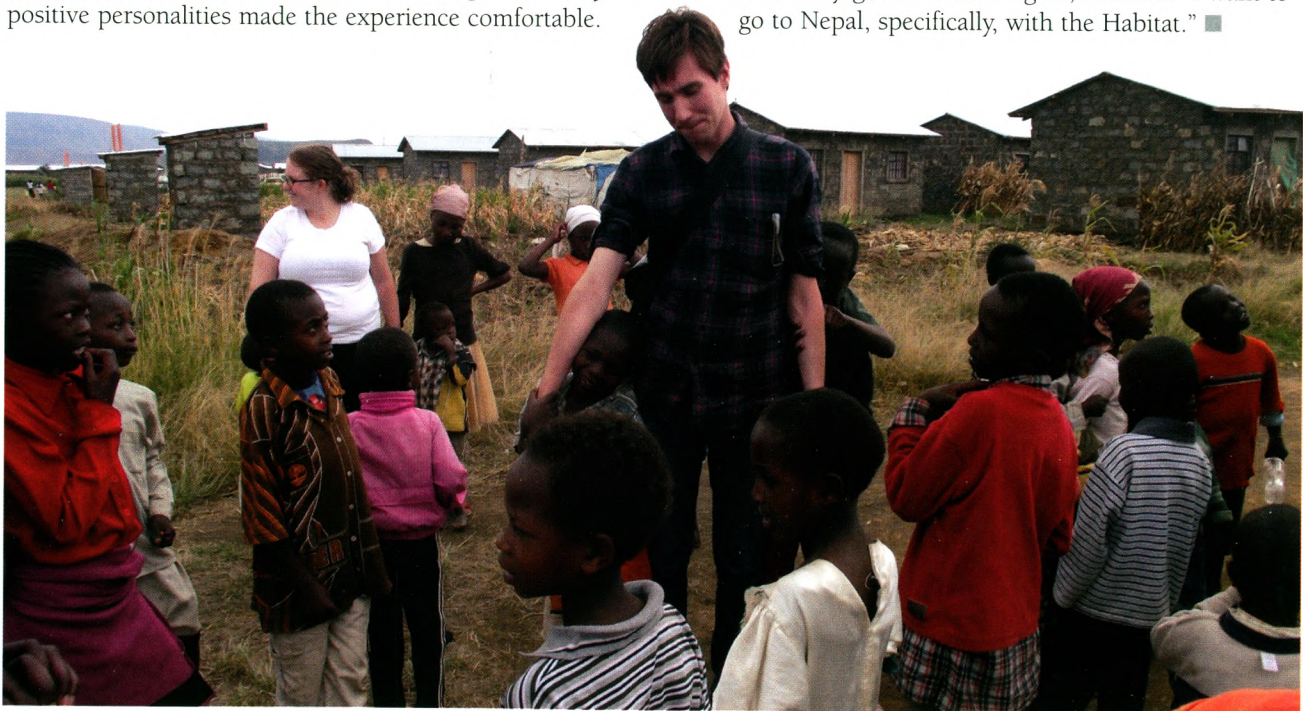
There, the unit was on site for 10 days, digging and laying stone for the foundation.

"We used mortar every day to patch it up and laid the gravel floor," he said. "The cement was weak, so we had to keep pouring gravel to make it dry."

"Looking at the end result, by American standards, it could be done in one day. But the resources they have, we used them, and embraced their culture."

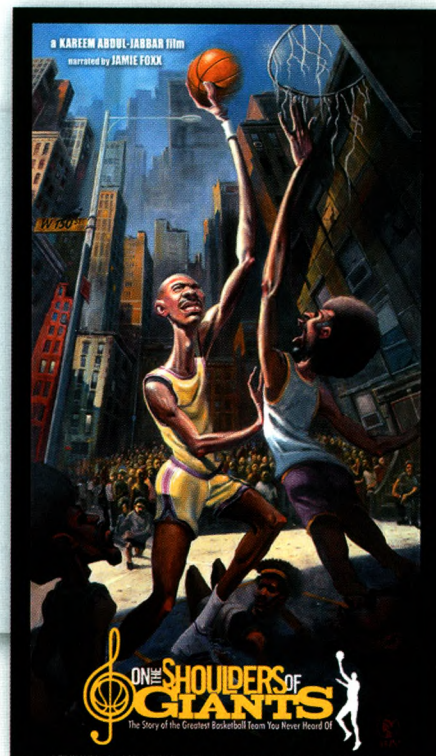
Mr. Saete said learning Kenya's culture was the most enriching part, where the Habitat contingent spent half of the time working and the other half among its people. And that's what has fueled his interest in more Global Village experiences.

"It was very good. I'll do it again," he said. "I want to go to Nepal, specifically, with the Habitat." ■





Not many college kids
get to be in a movie,
meet a basketball
hall of famer... and
be embedded in the
history of a sport.



SJC Hits the Big Screen

by Chris Gasiewski • cgasiewski@sjcny.edu

Kareem Abdul Jabbar calls it the best team you've never heard of.

His lifelong passion for the roots of basketball and jazz led him to discover the Harlem Renaissance, an all-black basketball team that dominated competition throughout the 1920s and 1930s. Mr. Abdul Jabbar chronicled his research in *On the Shoulders of Giants* in 2007, and last year he turned the book into a video documentary that premiered January 21 at the Gene Siskel Theater in Chicago.

So, what's SJC's connection?

Members and alumni from the Long Island Campus men's basketball program acted in the film, which was produced by Union Productions and Deborah Morales, founder and CEO of Iconomy.

Coach John Mateyko was a referee. Former center Sean Hyde '10 starred as

Tarzan Cooper and Joe Miglio '09 and current senior guard Eugene John also played roles during the re-enactment of the 1939 World Basketball Tournament Championship game.

"It's good for the kids to be involved with something like that," said Mr. Mateyko, who was contacted to send a media guide to Iconomy before casting began. "It is a once-in-a-lifetime deal for them."

Not many college kids get to be in a movie, meet a basketball hall of famer who signed autographs for the SJC contingent during the final hours of shooting at the Lexington Armory in Manhattan, and be embedded in the history of a sport.

The Renaissance, or Rens, are indeed one of basketball's all-time best teams. Founded by Robert

Douglas in 1923, the Rens couldn't join any professional leagues due to racial discrimination, which magnifies their 1939 World Basketball Tournament title.

The Rens defeated the Oshkosh All-Stars at the Chicago Coliseum in that game and became the first all-black team to win a championship at any level. The team was inducted in the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in 1963 after posting a 2,588-539 career record.

"They were the Jackie Robinsons of their time," Mr. Mateyko said. "That team was the best team around."

Along with the re-enactment, the film features interviews with celebrities such as Herbie Hancock and Spike Lee, as well as some NBA greats, including Charles Barkley and Clyde Drexler. ■



SJC was quite busy the week of March 28 through April 1. First, it hosted third Dr. Reza and Georgianna Clifford Khatib Chair in Comparative Religion Dr. Chung Hyun Kyung for her lecture on March 29. Two days later, it hosted Maria Karagianis, an award-winning journalist and the College's eighth Woodrow Wilson Visiting Fellow.

Here are snippets of what they said. For more coverage on both lectures, visit www.sjcny.edu. Follow us at twitter.com/SJCNY.



Dr. Chung

"In 1992, I was teaching at Harvard University. On the outside, it looked like I arrived. On the inside, I was in pain."

"Suffering comes from attachment of three poisons: greed, anger/hatred and ignorance."

"Liberation from suffering is possible by distancing ourselves from attachment."

"Buddhist ideals: 1. No sense of self. 2. Emptiness. 3. Karma theory. 4. Everything is correlated."

"Buddhism is an open mind. It's harmony with nature based on sustainability."



Ms. Karagianis

"In terms of finding the meaning of life it's always a quest. In the real world we are not likely to get there."

"It takes courage to live a meaningful life. It takes responsibility. Whining is really not useful."

"In the late 1970s in South Africa, the young generation had been inspired by the American civil rights movement."

"In the 1980s, values started to seem different; even values as a journalist started to change."

Ms. Karagianis on careers: "Follow your heart. Find meaning."

ACES Sets Record Enrollment

For close to 10 years, the ACES program at the Brooklyn Campus has offered extensive writing assistance to recent immigrant students. The successful program, which is a full-year intensive freshman English course, has been an asset in helping students who show great potential, but need assistance with writing and language.

That success has translated into the program enjoying a spike in enrollment this past academic year. With 21 freshmen, ACES nearly doubled the previous largest class of 12, which entered SJC in the fall 2006 semester.

This year's class, like all other years, was very diverse, with four students from the Dominican Republic, three from Nigeria, several from China and one from Morocco. Diversity has been a hallmark of the program, and collectively, the ACES contingent has reached 24, combining all class years.

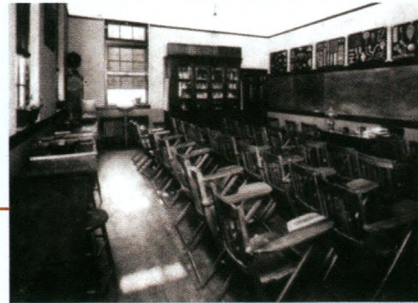
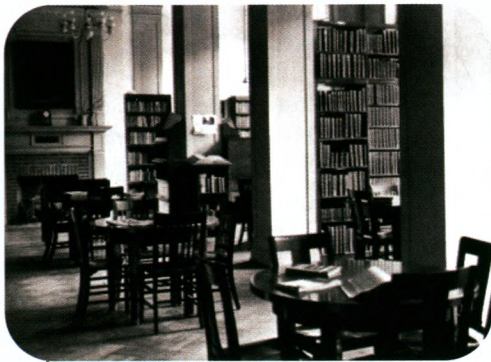
"Enrollment is up [campuswide]," ACES Director Mik Larson said in September. "I was out pounding the pavement last year. My counterpart in admissions, Steve Albano, has done a really good job of promoting the program. ACES and admissions are working really well together."

The synergistic relationship between the admissions staff and the program pushed the recruiting effort, and Mr. Larson established contacts with several city-area high schools that he had never recruited before. He also tapped into his fertile schools as well.

"Some of it was revisiting and re-establishing contact," he said. "We were able to use the magazine article [winter 2010] too. Everything that's out there helps."

"The reality is that every year, there are always students who don't know anything about St. Joseph's and ACES. That's an 'X' factor. I interviewed more than 50 percent of the students that got in. That personal touch really helps."

ACES graduates have gone on to prestigious graduate schools and programs, such as SUNY Downstate Medical Center and the University of Pennsylvania. ■



MOVERS &



A Look at SJC's Founders, Architects and the Future

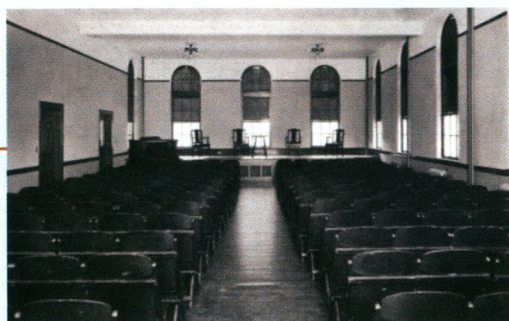
by Chris Gasiewski • cgasiewski@sjcny.edu

As St. Joseph's College nears its 100th anniversary, which is quickly approaching in 2016, we decided to take a look at our past, toward the future and have some fun. So, we have established Movers and Shakers, an annual feature that will highlight various figures that have made, or are on track to make, a significant impact here or in the world.

Picking subjects for the first installment was easy. We selected the College's first five presidents, beginning with Archbishop Thomas E. Molloy, M.A., J.D., to the current presidency of S. Elizabeth A. Hill, C.S.J., J.D.

More subjects will be included as we move forward, and everyone is a potential candidate as long as he or she has proven to be influential in either their business or here at the College. We hope you will enjoy the new feature while rekindling memories.

Each member will be categorized as a Founder, Architect or the Future, and selection is open to everyone, including administrators, faculty, students and especially you, our alumni.



SHAKERS



First, under the Founders category we have Archbishop Molloy, who was the College's first president when it opened its doors to 12 students in 1916. Msgr. William T. Dillon followed, and his dedication to academic excellence is a major reason why St. Joseph's is academically strong as it is today.

Under Architects, we highlighted S. Vincent Thérèse Tuohy, C.S.J., Ph.D., and S. George Aquin O'Connor, C.S.J., Ph.D., both of whom played integral roles in furthering the College's successes.

And finally we have S. Elizabeth, who could have easily fallen under either the Architects or the Future categories for her major contributions since she took office in 1997. Her keen intelligence, calm demeanor and quick wit have been at the forefront of the College's successes and the force behind its enormous growth.

These are the first inductees (if you will). We look forward to hearing your feedback and thoughts on the new feature, as well as potential future subjects.



1916



1920



1921

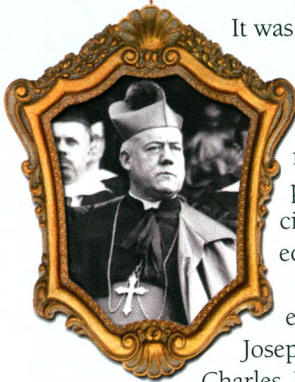


1938



1956

Founder — Archbishop Thomas E. Molloy, M.A., J.D. The First SJC President



It was a tumultuous time when the College opened in 1916. World War I had just begun two years earlier. Women did not have equal rights and were not expected to pursue higher education. Catholicism was also still not fully accepted in this region.

To found an institution of higher learning, the Sisters of St.

Joseph needed the support of Bishop Charles E. McDonnell, then head of the Diocese of Brooklyn. And through his support, St. Joseph's College for Women opened in 1916.

Thomas E. Molloy was also the first philosophy professor in 1916 — one of eight at SJC. By tradition, he has been considered the first president. He was a beloved man, and he became an auxiliary bishop to Bishop McDonnell in 1920, when the College graduated its first 14 students.

In the *Footprints* yearbook that year, Constance Doyle '20, then president of the Undergraduate Association (now

Student Government Association) wrote warmly about him and his undying dedication to the students.

"It is rather as a friend to both faculty and students that his real worth is felt," she wrote. "His solicitude and interest for each member of the College are untiring. No one has ever sought his help or advice without receiving the kindest and most practical consideration. ... He has been a generous, congenial, and sympathetic personality, a sterling character, an ideal teacher, and a loyal friend."

He became the diocese's third bishop, as well as the youngest ordinary in the world at age 36, with the passing of Bishop McDonnell in 1921. He ceased teaching at the College, but he always presided at the College's commencement. And the diocese flourished under his direction.

According to a *Catholic News* article published at the time of his death, there were 584 priests and 819,217 practicing Catholics when Archbishop Molloy became head of the diocese. When he passed away at 71 in 1956, there were 1,455 priests serving and 1,497,598 practitioners — a population increase of 80 percent.



1945



1946



1950s



1950s

Founder — Msgr. William T. Dillon, J.D. Academics Strengthened



While the diocese was growing exponentially under Archbishop Molloy, Msgr. William T. Dillon, J.D., took his place in 1921 as professor of philosophy, then dean, and guided development of the College long before his official appointment as president in 1945.

Commonly known as a charismatic and strong personality with great vision,

Msgr. Dillon had much success during his presidency.

Strengthening academics was his first priority, and he initiated several strategies to attract highly intelligent faculty to teach at SJC.

Msgr. Dillon, who was president from 1945-1955, guided SJC to many major academic accomplishments,

including instituting an honor system, a student-administered attendance committee and an appeals committee, as well as becoming one of the founders of the Delta Epsilon Sigma honor society. SJC is still a member today.

His honor system, where examinations were without proctors, lasted well into the 1970s, when the times and culture in the U.S. changed.

During his tenure, administrative offices were created, as well as the science laboratory, the Chapel, nursery school and a library.

He might have been president for only a decade, but his mark was first made when he began as professor of philosophy in 1921, through his time as academic dean from 1927-1945 to his final position as president.

Mostly, though, he will be remembered for his everlasting effect on SJC's students.

Architect — S. Vincent Thérèse Tuohy, C.S.J., Ph.D. The First Capital Campaign



Msgr. Dillon strengthened academics, but when he left office in 1955, the College had limited money. And fundraising needed to be done.

Enter S. Vincent Thérèse Tuohy, C.S.J., Ph.D., a tall and dignified woman that can be best known for locating the necessary funds to help keep SJC open.

S. Vincent Thérèse was faced with an Alumnae Association that was exclusively women and mostly teachers and social workers. They had never been asked to donate money before.

The push became the foundation for the creation of a development office (now the Office of Institutional Advancement). Through the help of wonderful volunteers like Marjorie Davis Isban and several others, the office expanded outreach. It wasn't an easy task.

First, the library, which was then located in Lorenzo Hall, was full. Space was needed, and S. Vincent Thérèse launched SJC's first capital campaign to erect McEntegart Hall, a five-level structure that currently houses the Brooklyn Campus library, classrooms, cafeteria, bookstore, Academic Center, faculty and student lounges.

The alumnae donated most of the money, and McEntegart Hall opened in 1965 at 222 Clinton Avenue. It fit on a former softball field and into a campus landscape that already included the current Burns Hall (245 Clinton), Lorenzo Hall, the Convent (now Founders Hall) and the Molloy Theatre.

Still, her work was not done. The St. Joseph's College Preschool was overcrowded. A burgeoning and necessary

enterprise, it was relegated to a small space in Burns Hall.

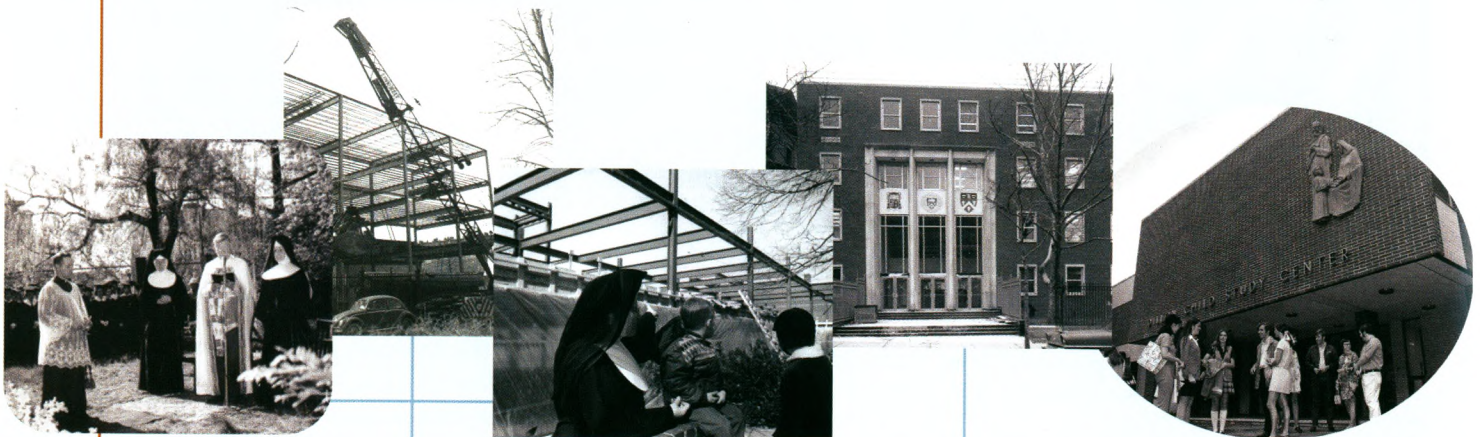
At the time, preschools fell under the Board of Health's watch, and the board consistently recommended to S. Vincent Thérèse the need for new premises, ultimately beginning the second capital campaign just a few months after McEntegart Hall opened. SJC alumni supported the campaign, which was run by S. Virginia Thérèse Callahan and the development office.

The current Dillon Child Study Center, named for Msgr. Dillon, who envisioned and created the first child study center, opened in 1968 and has continued to provide a play-based education for youngsters, a one-of-a-kind preschool in the area.

Capital projects highlighted S. Vincent Thérèse's presidency, and she was noted for bringing businessmen and women onto the Board of Trustees in her final years. She also created the Office of Admissions, which in turn began recruitment efforts. In addition, the College's graduates received a large number of national academic honors. SJC's faculty also obtained numerous grants for advanced study and research under her guidance.

During her inauguration, then Brooklyn College President Harry D. Gideonse said, "The induction of S. Vincent Thérèse comes at a historic moment in not only the life of the College over which she will preside, but in the history of the communities in which the College functions." And SJC continued to function smoothly during her tenure, which ended in 1969.

On March 17, 1977, S. Vincent Thérèse passed away at Good Samaritan Hospital, and S. George Aquin O'Connor, C.S.J., Ph.D., her successor as president, stated, "She represented to all alumni and friends of the College, the spirit of SJC."



1956

1964

1965

1968

Architect — S. George Aquin O'Connor, C.S.J., Ph.D. A Move to Long Island



The 1970s were a chaotic time in the world, and especially in the world of higher education. Vietnam changed culture and the way students thought. Riots ensued. Students

protested the war and for academic change, sometimes in college presidents' offices.

It was also chaotic for SJC and S. George Aquin O'Connor, C.S.J., Ph.D., who took office in 1969. The College had little money and faced a declining enrollment due to closing Catholic high schools. There was also a significant push from New York State to loosen restrictions on transfer credits. City University followed by initiating an open-admissions policy.

Radical times called for extreme changes, and S. George spearheaded an overhaul of the curriculum, which reduced the number of required credits from 76 to 56, and was more attractive for students to transfer and pursue many academic avenues.

Later, in 1970, SJC went co-educational, and in 1971, the College partnered with Long Island University to share a campus at the grounds of the motherhouse of the Sisters of St. Joseph's in Brentwood. It was the first of its kind in New York State, where the two institutions shared facilities and expenses.

Just a short time later, St. Joseph's received qualification for New York Institutional Aid (Bundy Aid) and it created

the Division of General Studies (also known as the School for Adult and Professional Studies and now known as the School of Professional and Graduate Studies), a program geared for older, non-traditional students. The Brentwood Campus began offering a two-year, upper-division program.

The explosion of growth continued in 1978 when SJC purchased 25 acres of lakeside property in Patchogue, which ultimately became the Long Island Campus, and a four-year program was inaugurated.

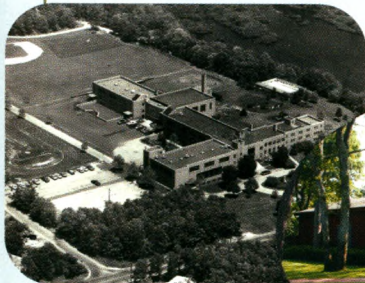
"It was a matter of working on five major things from 1969-1979," said S. Elizabeth A. Hill, C.S.J., J.D., who served as S. George's executive assistant from 1980 until becoming president in 1997. "Then in the '80s, the Long Island Campus took off like a rocket.

"It was the beginning of the good times. It was at that point we realized what we could do. Patchogue was a baby, about 400-500 students. It was something new and raw and untested."

It was also something that grew exponentially during her tenure. S. George saw the campus go from just one building (now O'Connor Hall) to a budding landscape that included the Clare Rose Playhouse (constructed in 1985), Callahan Library (built in 1989) and the John A. Danzi Athletic Center (opened in 1997).

Enrollment also multiplied. When S. George retired in 1997, the College enrolled almost 4,000 students and that number has since stabilized with 3,906 undergraduates in the 2010-2011 academic year. SJC also began offering its first graduate program — the M.A. in Infant/Toddler Early Childhood Special Education — in 1995.

S. George will always be remembered as a teacher, a sociologist and a dear friend. She passed away in late 2007.



1978



1985



1989



1997





1997



1998



2001



2002

The Future — S. Elizabeth A. Hill, C.S.J., J.D. Building on Excellence



stood by S. George for 17 of her 28 years as president.

"It was scary. She had been such a visionary," S. Elizabeth said of following S. George. "She had such a huge impact on the College, bringing it from a fragile and endangered institution to a strong educational and academically viable college.

"It was a growing entity."

Growth happened almost immediately. S. Elizabeth increased full-time faculty, focused on diversity initiatives and established the Council for the Arts to provide fine and performing arts programming to SJC and its surrounding communities.

Both campuses expanded. Just a year later, the College purchased 256 Clinton (St. Joseph's Hall), a five-story

S. Elizabeth describes S. George's presidency as "transformational." She left a legacy of guiding SJC to become strong financially and academically when she stepped down in 1997. Optimism surrounded both campuses with the inauguration of S. Elizabeth, who had

building that houses the Office of Institutional Advancement, the Office of Alumni Relations, the Psychology Laboratory and several academic department offices, including history, speech, languages and sociology.

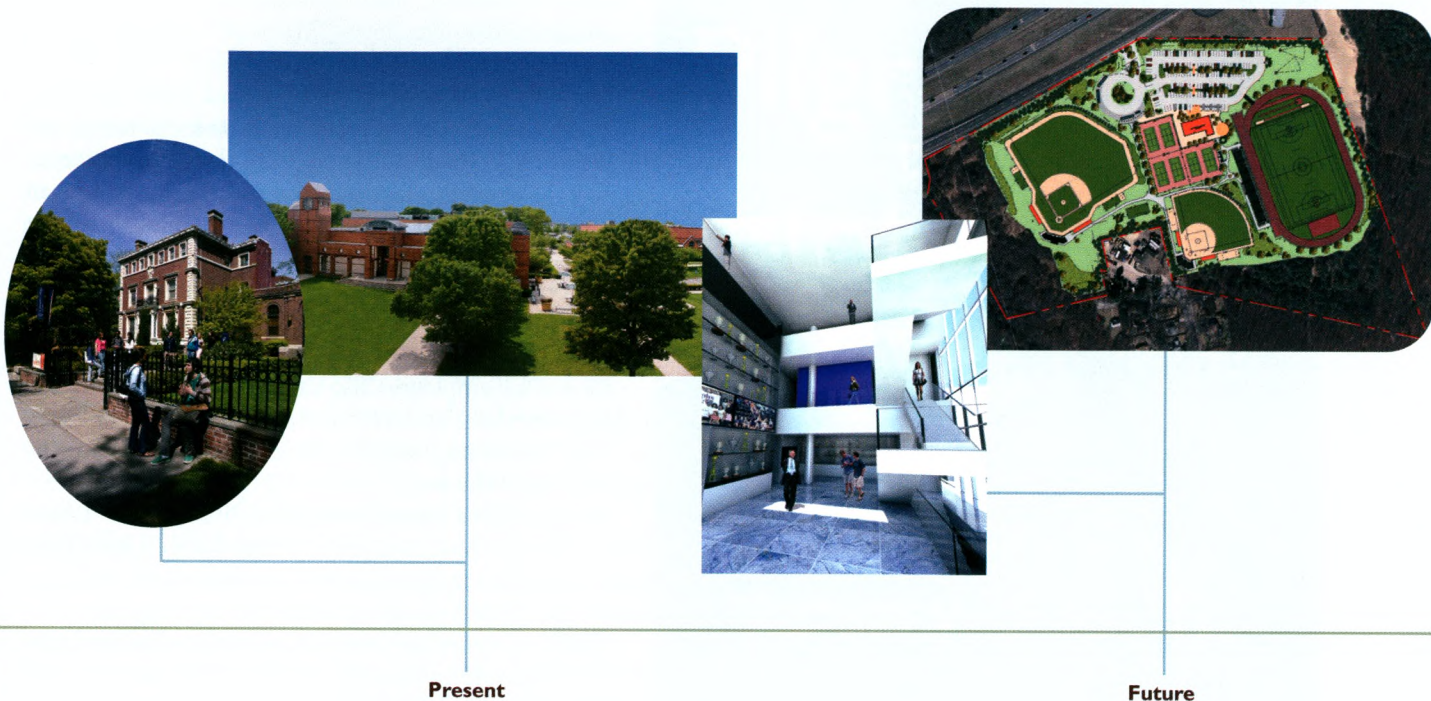
In 2001, SJC bought St. Angela Hall on Washington Avenue for classroom space and a place to hold meetings.

Sixty-eight miles east and a year later, the Long Island Campus opened the Business Technology Center, a 33,000-square-foot, \$8 million state-of-the-art building that houses computer laboratories, classrooms and faculty offices. And the expansion has continued on both campuses with Brooklyn about to erect a gym for its athletic program and Long Island constructing a 24.8-acre athletic complex east of campus on Sunrise Highway.

Technology-wise, vast improvements have been made under S. Elizabeth's guidance.

A high-speed fiber-optic network that connected all offices, instructional facilities, computer labs and libraries on both campuses was developed in 1998. A year later, an online library system was installed, and degrees began being offered online throughout the next decade.

"We've made incredible progress," S. Elizabeth said. "[Former Chief Information Officer] Joe Spadaro did an



incredible job doing the framework and under [current CIO] Ken McCollum we have made tremendous expansions in dealing with multicampus operations with how we can streamline and improve the usage of technology in the classroom.

"The minute you buy something, it's obsolete. It's going to be a major budget item forever."

Social media has also made a tremendous impact on consistently advertising SJC and its resources.

"That is the big step, bringing the audience to the College that would not otherwise know about us," S. Elizabeth said. "The Web has been a major tool."

The Web has also helped promote SJC's ever-growing list of degree offerings. Since the first graduate program began in 1995, the College has introduced nine more, each during S. Elizabeth's tenure. Also, the ACES program for students for whom English was a second language was created. Global studies initiatives took off. The residential program in Brooklyn has developed slowly, yet steadily.

With all of her accomplishments, S. Elizabeth has still been able to assist in community endeavors, sitting on several boards, such as the Steering Committee of the Long Island Regional Advisory Council on Higher Education (LIRACHE)

and on the College of Advisors for ERASE Racism. She is on the Board of Directors of the Commission on Independent Colleges and Universities (CICU), Brooklyn Community Foundation, the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce and the Fort Greene Strategic Neighborhood Action Partnership (SNAP). She is also a member of the Board of Trustees of The Mary Louis Academy and Xaverian High School and the Board of Advisors for Saint Saviour High School.

Her work has been extraordinary, and she has never relented. Yet S. Elizabeth never lost sight of the College's mission nor its focus on the liberal arts. It's the foundation of what she stands for. And her vision for SJC's future is just as solid as the ground it rests on.

"We still need to invite more faculty to join us and add appropriate faculty space," she said. "Most of the administrative offices have grown. Those concerns will continue. We need to do a full assessment of the Brooklyn Campus and see if our space is being used as best as possible. We are also planning to do something about another building on the Long Island Campus. We need a student center.

"In the larger picture, it's knowing how much we need and how much we have to do. We can pat one another on the back, but we have to keep going." ■

Content is King

by Diane Pfadenhauer, J.D.



When I was in the corporate world, I described that I had a house in Northport but lived on American Airlines. In addition to a frenetic travel schedule, I was unable to engage in one of my favorite activities — writing.

When I left the corporate world and joined SJC, I immediately found myself writing articles — some of which are published in what I would describe

as unpopular journals with no pictures and a lot of footnotes that no one really reads. Those who know me well will attest that I am essentially unable to read anything that does not require highlighter.

I started one of the first labor and employment blogs in 2004. It's going on seven years now, has more than a thousand pages and still remains one of the most popular blogs in its space. This year it was ranked as one of the top 50 blogs in human resources (only one of four employment law blogs on the list). In 2005 the American Bar Association recognized it as one of the top two employment law sites of the year.

My reason for blogging, writing articles (in a variety of other so-called “popular” publications as well) and now tweeting has always been to provide important and relevant information to the human resources and employment law community that is free, easy to read and easily accessible. Writing and publishing has allowed me to do that. Tweeting has allowed me to expand my reach with simple, easy to digest snippets of information.

More recently, I started writing books. My books are now sold throughout the world and encompass a variety of topics, such as workplace investigations, layoffs and downsizing and compliance with specific laws. They are specifically intended to be essential summaries of the legal requirements that are readable, easily accessible and can be absorbed easily. Buyers are typically small-business owners, employment lawyers and human-resources professionals. Occasionally, a college or university will use my New York employment law guide as a supplement to a traditional employment-law textbook.

Being a writer with an active focus on social media and the Web as a method of delivery has proven very interesting over the years. I've had many people in my network call me after searching a subject on the Internet only to find that the source of the information they found was me.

On one recent occasion, one of my clients was looking for a book on workplace investigations. He did a Google search and what he came up with was my book.

One of my employees also shared with me that she was looking something up on the Internet and found herself on my blog, wondering why it looked so familiar before she realized where she was.

My goal is to write a minimum of 20 books. I have written five and have two others in the works. I have been known to write a book in a week, but please don't hold that against me. Once I get going, there's no stopping me.

Sadly, I am sure that some of my students would argue that I am unable to empathize with those who struggle meeting minimum page number requirements for written assignments. ■

Diane Pfadenhauer, J.D., is an assistant professor in SJC's Graduate Management Studies program.

News and Notes

Child Study

Dr. Mary Fritz and **Dr. Victoria Siegmund** used their summer research grant to visit the schools of Reggio Emilia in the northern region of Italy in October. They spent a week there and engaged in a workshop with 100 teachers from 35 different countries.

Dr. Kathleen Granelli will present, “Discovering the Hidden Language and Reading Capabilities of Children with Autistic Disorder,” at the 56th Conference of the International Reading Association this month.

Dr. Jan Harting-McChesney, along with a group of colleagues from across New York State, presented “Voice, Choice, and Context: Literacy Teacher Educators' Perspectives Toward Use of Inservice Resources in Preservice Methods Classes” at the Literacy Research Association's national conference (formerly the National Reading Conference) in December in Fort Worth, TX. The presentation was published in the *LRA Yearbook*.

Economics

In November, **Dr. Richard J. Torz** participated in the 2011 Eastern Economic Association Annual Conference in Man-

hattan. Dr. Torz organized three panel sessions on behalf of his European Union (EU)-Economic and Monetary Union (EMU) Working Group, dealing with the future of the EMU, issues and problems in the EU and EMU and the current situation in the Portugal, Italy, Ireland, Greece and Spain (PIIGS). Social sciences major Kaloyan Andonov (economics concentration) presented "Bulgaria and the Euro" at the panel session on issues and problems in the EU and EMU.

English

Dr. Judith Phagan delivered a paper, "(Un)Fortunate Sun: Teaching Viramontes' 'Under the Feet of Jesus' on Long Island," in April at the College English Association in St. Petersburg, FL. She also received a small grant to study learning assessment techniques among American Indians and visited the National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C.

Health Administration

Gus Costalas, who will teach in the M.B.A. in Health Care Management program this fall, was appointed associate executive director for finance at Lenox Hill Hospital in Manhattan.

Kevin Beiner, who most recently served as director of operations of health system administration, was promoted to associate executive director of the Manhattan Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital (MEETH), a part of Lenox Hill.

Barbara Southard, deputy executive director of the North Shore-Long Island Jewish Orzac Center for Extended Care and Rehabilitation had her organization named to *U.S. News and World Report's* Honor Roll for best nursing homes. The award goes to only 18 nursing homes out of 15,500 candidates nationwide.

Mathematics and Computer Science

Dr. Donna Marie Pirich authored a paper with Leigh Johnson '08, Heather O'Connor '08 and Theresa Sampson '08 that will be published in the spring edition of the Kappa Mu Epsilon journal, *The Pentagon*. The paper, "Phi Patterns in Nature and Beyond," is an extension of work the students originally presented at the KME National Conference, which was held in Philadelphia in 2009.

Philosophy

Michael McClain and **Dr. Wendy Turgeon** were judges in the second annual Long Island High School Ethics Bowl, held in February at Bethpage High School. Dr. Turgeon also made a presentation at the American Philosophical Association Pacific Division meeting in April in San Diego. ■

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*Nothing in the World can take
the place of persistence.*

Talent will not;

*Nothing is more common
than unsuccessful men with talent.*

Genius will not;

Unrewarded Genius is almost a proverb.

Education will not;

the world is full of educated failures.

***Persistence and determination
alone are omnipotent.***

-from U.S. Transplant Games plaque

SEARCHING for another **MIRACLE**

by Chris Gasiewski • cgasiewski@sjcny.edu

Once Glenn Nathan awoke on a typical Monday morning this winter, he instantly serviced the messages on his iPhone that pertained to his work as territory sales representative of Silver Line Windows, an Andersen company.

He checked his blood-sugar levels, which had become low in recent months, while on the phone. A self-proclaimed "borderline diabetic," part of his morning consisted of injecting himself with a series of shots before he managed the phone again and made sales stops.

Work kept the Long Island Campus men's and women's tennis coach occupied, but Nathan's 4:30 p.m. appointment at Suffolk Kidney Center in Hauppauge was constantly on his mind.

After arriving there, two hypodermic needles were inserted into Nathan's arm, one for removing and one for receiving blood through a dialysis machine. He lost two to four pounds per visit, depending on how much fluid he drank that particular day, which didn't usually wind down until 9 p.m., when he departed for his Shirley home cold, weak and tired.

Not having eaten, he still continued to work and utilize his phone. "My sales are up, believe it or not," Nathan confidently said.

He repeated this process three times each week.

"I've always thought of dialysis as a part-time job," he said. "I'm just not as strong as I'd like to be, but I have to go to that part-time job."

It's a concrete reality Nathan has lived almost his entire life. He needs a kidney transplant — the third since enduring a long list of kidney problems that began when he was 7 years old.

His first transplant relegated him to a five-month stay in Brigham & Women's Hospital in Boston in 1988. He received the second from his father, Norman, in 2000. And as of early April this year, the search for a third donor continued.

Just months before, Glenn Nathan's daughters, Alyssa (20, a retail manager at Tanger Outlets), Lindsay (19, a freshman at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte) and Courtney (14, a freshman at William Floyd High

School), posted his situation on Facebook. Overwhelming support and potential donors emerged.

"My daughters are the best," he said. "They want me back to where I was with the [last] transplant."

Everybody does. His family, friends, the SJC athletic department and his players, both former and current, all hope and pray that Nathan is granted another miracle. Doctors had told him that the transplant could be completed by June, if he found a compatible donor.

He was tested at Columbia Presbyterian Hospital on March 1 and four potential donors, including his wife of 24 years, Denise, were not compatible. Now, Glenn is back on a waiting list.

"I cannot envision him doing dialysis for the next eight years," Denise said. "It brings a whole host of issues all by itself. I couldn't sit around and wait for something to happen.

"It's somewhat selfish on my behalf. I want him to have a quality of life and to not be able to coach will kill him."

Glenn, naturally humbled by the abundance of support, added: "I'm a fighter. I've always believed in living your life to the fullest. The guys on my team gave me the nickname of the Steel Inferno."

Sports have always been Nathan's solace, a way to sufficiently channel his talent while escaping the harsh truth of his deteriorating health. When he was 8, he had an experimental surgery on his kidney and doctors gave him a year to live. So, he pursued his dream and played baseball until he realized "everyone was getting taller," and he later joined the Sachem High School tennis team as a freshman — a move that sparked a successful career in the sport.

Nathan also played first singles at Suffolk Community College's Ammerman Campus in 1977. Two years later, though, he faced a difficult decision: have a kidney transplant or begin dialysis. He opted for the latter, considering the experimental stage of transplants in 1978.

"You get very sluggish," he said. "You don't want to eat.

"I fought it for such a long time. But the poisons in your blood take over."

After graduating from Suffolk in 1980, and on dialysis three times a week, Nathan enrolled at Adelphi with the hopes of walking on to the tennis team. He tried out, wowed coach Ed Wolfarth and was offered a partial scholarship. He later advanced to become the No. 1 singles player, all while on dialysis.

"I was able to balance my dialysis and drink enough fluid, knowing that when I play enough tennis that I'm going to lose the fluid and I'm going to sweat out the impurities," he said. "I got smarter as I got older. I learned how to run the other person around. I learned how to move the

ball. I learned how to play really hard for two points, then catch my breath for three points."

The next year, Nathan missed class to play tennis with actor Lloyd Bridges at the National Tennis Center in Queens. The opportunity turned into a job prospect as he was offered a position with Sports Plus, a company owned by former Mets star first baseman Ed Kranepool, where Nathan helped host celebrity tennis tournaments and 10K races. The job included traveling to Barbados and Florida.

"I didn't even finish Adelphi," he said, but he did later in 2000 and called it one of his proudest achievements.

"I had one physics class left," he said. "But I was in the field of tennis. I was traveling around, getting tennis clothes, money. I was the tennis pro for a couple of small celebrities. I had Richard Roundtree, Steve

Garvey, Connie Stevens.

"It was the greatest time. Everyone marveled on how I could do it on dialysis. It wasn't easy at all."

Neither was 1988, when Nathan finally was forced into having his first transplant. He and Denise were living in an apartment at his parent's home in Farmingville. He was on home dialysis. And the toll became too steep and transplant became the most viable option.

"I got the call at one o'clock in the morning that they had a kidney for me," he said. "We threw the whole family in the car and drove up to Boston and I had the transplant on July 23, 1988."



*"My life depends
on freedom.
My life depends
on traveling.
My life depends
on working,
then coaching at night."*

Unfortunately, Nathan didn't leave Brigham and Women's until that November after numerous complications. He didn't reject the kidney, rather initially had a torn ureter (muscular tubes that carry urine from the kidneys to the bladder).

"Within the first week, I wasn't feeling well," he said. "My leg was filling up with fluid. They thought I was rejecting and treated me."

"They had to go back in and fix that. Then, the kidney took on too much fluid. A couple weeks later from that, I built an infection. It kept going on and on and on."

The vicious cycle continued and he missed a 30th-birthday party Denise planned for him. His parathyroid levels also rocketed, which resulted in partial removal.

"I never thought I was going to see Long Island again," Nathan said. "You second guess yourself if the transplant was the right thing to do."

Ultimately, it was. But the experience became somewhat taxing to Denise, who worked full time during the week, then trekked to Boston every weekend.

"It was really, really hard," she said. "I don't think people realize the emotional stress you go through. It catches up to you when you least expect it."

Nathan's second transplant also came unexpectedly and from a rather unexpected source. He received it in 2000 at Westchester Medical Center, this time from Norman, who was then 69.

"Everything was great. His kidney was working," the younger Nathan said. "Knowing my three daughters, knowing that I am working full time and seeing me on dialysis three times a week, my father just said 'I want to give you a kidney.'"

"He's not an emotional man, but he was very emotional."

Emotions continued between Nathan and his father after he was discharged. Glenn participates and has won the gold medal in bowling and tennis at the U.S. Transplant Games, but the gold in tennis that he received in 2000 has meant the most.

"[Norman] was there and gave me the gold medal," Glenn said. "To see the emotion on him made me realize that he stepped out of what he normally is as a father and gave more than he could. The emotional level was just incredible."

Now, the emotion reverts back to the highs and lows of finding a donor, to which Glenn has brought a lightened approach.

"No matter how hard it becomes, he will always be a great person and he will strive through this," Courtney Nathan said. "We just keep waiting and hoping that he gets that kidney and he will be perfectly fine and the same person he is now, just healthier."

"The first one he went through, I really didn't understand. Now that I am older it is still really hard. He always says 'whoever has the most scars wins.' He has a really great sense of humor about it."

Glenn knows it could take days, weeks or even years. But as he has lived his entire life, he and his family are ready for the fight.

"My life depends on freedom," he said. "My life depends on traveling. My life depends on working, then coaching at night."

Denise added: "I just know that Glenn has touched so many people, so many kids. After years of teaching these kids, it would be almost criminal for it not to come to fruition." ■

GLENN NATHAN COACH OF THE YEAR



OVERALL RECORD

- 50-29 with the men's team
- 51-39 with the women's team
(records prior to fall 2010 season)

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Three straight NCAA Tournament appearances from 2008-2010
- Beat Salve Regina, 5-4, in 2010 NCAA Tournament first-round match for SJC's first tournament win

ACCOLADES

- Three-time Skyline Conference Coach of the Year award winner

SPORTS DESK 3 BY THE NUMBERS

3 Good things happen when multiple players average double figures in scoring. And the Brooklyn men's basketball team enjoyed just that between Donald Coleman (14.6 points per game), Jan Rogowski (10.8) and Antoine Forehand (10). The trio helped push the Bears to the brink of a second straight HVMAC championship, but top-seeded Berkeley dispatched SJC, 91-62, in the title game.

5 L.I. freshman swimmer Lauren Ouzounian shattered the Skyline records in the 100-yard backstroke (one minute, 4.28 seconds) and the 200-yard back (2:19.09) to be named co-Skyline Swimmer of the Year. She also broke five separate SJC records at the Metropolitan Swimming Conference Championships. She now holds the program records in the 100-butterfly (1:06.09), 100-back (1:03.86), 100-freestyle (1:00.85) and 200-back (2:18.07), and she led off the 400-freestyle relay team of Krysta Verdoné, Cristina Roughley and Allison Grega (4:09.58).

6 The Brooklyn women's swimming program has grown at an exponential rate since its inception as an intercollegiate program in the 2009-2010 season. Powered by six swimmers who medaled, SJC placed second at the conference meet for the second consecutive season. Kristen McMaster snatched the gold in the 50-yard freestyle (28.71) and the silver in the 500-free (7:21.26, which set a program record). Olivia O'Hara won silver in the 200-individual medley (3:01.93), 100-backstroke (1:19.44) and 100-breast (1:28.54), and she was a member of the second-place 200-medley relay team with Laura Sonnylal, Brianne Reilly and Alison Nunziata. Reilly captured the silver in the 50-back (40.35). Nunziata added a silver, anchoring the 200-free relay (2:03.63). McMaster, Nunziata and O'Hara were named all-conference for the second straight year.

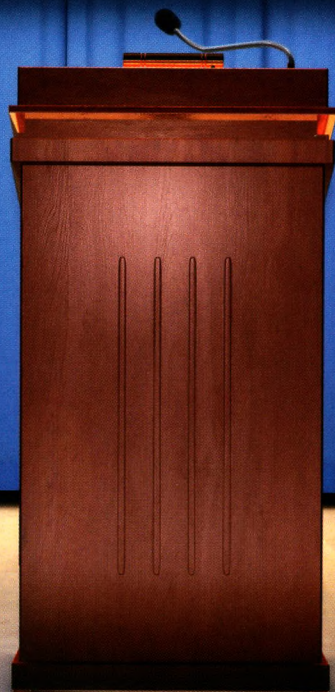
8 Sophomore Amanda Bender quickly solidified herself as an inside presence on the L.I. women's basketball team, netting 25 and 33 points against Lehman and City College of New York, respectively. She was a force all season and scored 17 points or more eight times, resulting in a second-team All-Skyline selection. Bender may have missed the final seven games to injury, but her 14.3 points and 7.4 rebounds per game averages have next season looking extremely bright.

14.5 Even with all eyes on Ashley McQuillan as the Brooklyn women's basketball team's main scoring threat, she still produced, averaging a team-best 14.5 points per game. She also led the team in steals (2.5) and tied Teresa Mangan in assists (2.4). McQuillan was the Hudson Valley Women's Athletic Conference Player of the Week three times, and the junior guard led SJC to the HVWAC title game for the third consecutive year. SJC fell to Albany College of Pharmacy, 73-47, in that game.

87.2 Picking a number for the L.I. men's basketball team was not easy. SJC set program marks in scoring (87.2 points per game) and longest winning streak (12 games). The Golden Eagles, who finished 22-7, were also ranked No. 3 in the NCAA Division III Atlantic Region poll and advanced to the Skyline title game for the second time in three years. SJC fell to top-seeded Purchase, but earned the No. 1 seed for the Eastern College Athletic Conference Metro Tournament, where it lost to No. 8 New York University, 107-93. SJC also obliterated the school record for team 3-pointers in a game with 21, which beat the mark of 15 that was set during the 2003-2004 season against Mount Saint Mary College.

1,086 With the L.I. men's basketball team chucking an avalanche of 3-pointers this winter, Chris Jimenez led the charge. The junior guard broke the 1,000-point plateau, finishing his junior season with 1,086, and he converted 101 treys (a 3.4 per game average, eighth best in NCAA Division III). On December 8, he nailed 10 3-pointers against Old Westbury, besting all-time leading scorer David Acree's previous record of nine. Jimenez scored 36 points (one shy of the record) in that game, which helped SJC rally from a 20-point deficit with 13 minutes remaining en route to an 86-83 win. Jimenez was named first-team All-Skyline. He joined Olivier Laurent (17 points per game, fourth in the Skyline) on the first team.

THE HALL IS CALLING



SAVE THE DATE
Induction Ceremony
October 6, 2011

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Nominations are now being accepted for the fourth class of the
GOLDEN EAGLE ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME
in the following categories:

ATHLETE • COACH (former or retired) • TEAMS • DISTINGUISHED CONTRIBUTOR

The nomination process is open to the entire SJC community. The deadline for completed forms is June 15, 2011.

To learn more about the Golden Eagle Athletic Hall of Fame and obtain a nomination form, visit www.sjcnj.edu/athletichalloffame or call 631.687.2653.

A LIFETIME OF ACHIEVEMENTS

She leaves the Brooklyn Campus in a strong position, with an excellent academic reputation, a growing student body and a dedicated faculty.





by Mark Wilson • mwilson@sjcny.edu

Just out of high school, S. Margaret Buckley, C.S.J., came to St. Joseph's because, she said, "This seemed like a good choice to me. It had a good reputation." And although she is stepping down as academic dean in Brooklyn, thanks to her, future generations of students will continue to attend the College because of its fine reputation. She will continue to teach in the education department.

"I want to express, on behalf of everyone at the College, our deep gratitude for everything S. Margaret has done," SJC President S. Elizabeth A. Hill, C.S.J., J.D. said. "She leaves the Brooklyn Campus in a strong position, with an excellent academic reputation, a growing student body and a dedicated faculty."

After teaching English at Lafayette High School for nine years, S. Margaret joined the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph and was asked to return to SJC in 1969 on the recommendation of S. John Raymond McGann.

"I first met S. Margaret when she was teaching in the public schools," S. John Raymond said. "I knew she had been a very good student, so I suggested we ask for her to come to the College. I felt that S. Margaret's teaching experience, ability and familiarity with St. Joseph's were great assets."

S. Margaret added: "My first year, I taught the foundations of education course, supervised student teaching and sat in on S. John Raymond's general education methods class. In the methods course, I was like the student teacher, but S. John Raymond gave me a couple of units to teach to get my feet wet, and I eventually took it over from her."

When S. John Raymond was elected general superior of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Brentwood in

1978, S. Margaret became chair of the education department, a position she held until 1986, when S. John Raymond returned to the College. "I don't think she needed my advice," S. John Raymond said. "She knew how to take care of things, and I was always confident she would do it."

In 1969, S. George Aquin O'Connor became SJC president, and, facing many challenges, she undertook a series of bold measures, most notably, instituting the Brentwood Extension Campus and the General Studies Program. In the process, these developments greatly increased the responsibilities of the academic dean, then S. Mary Florence Burns. So, in 1977, S. Margaret was selected as assistant academic dean.

"S. Mary Florence took the list of her job descriptions and kind of said, 'You do this. I'll keep this. You do this,'" S. Margaret said. "I took over certain things in the beginning, like hiring part-time faculty, interviewing students and sitting on committees."

As the College continued to grow, deans were assigned to the Brentwood Campus and the General Studies Program. S. Mary Florence was promoted to academic vice president, overseeing all the deans, and in 1987, S. Margaret assumed the role of academic dean of the Brooklyn Campus, which she found to be an easy transition thanks to S. Mary Florence.

"She is a great leader, highly intelligent, perceptive and insightful," S. Margaret said, "and she is a mentor in my life. I still consult S. Mary Florence, and I count on being able to call on her wisdom."

According to *The Essential Academic Dean*, "the average dean serves for about five years in his or her position." In contrast, S. Margaret has led the Brooklyn Campus for 24 years, and during that time, she has been integral in establishing many new programs at the College. "So many things now taken for granted on the Brooklyn Campus were initiated or

supported by her, but she is so unassuming that we do not recognize her deft hand," S. Mary Florence said.

From 1974-1986, S. Margaret was head of the College's Save-a-Year (SAY) program, in which St. Joseph's faculty went to local high schools and taught a full year of college courses to seniors. S. Margaret was also actively involved in the Brooklyn Educational and Cultural Alliance. As the local liaison, she assigned faculty to lecture in senior citizen and community centers and was compensated for her work.

"It might've paid \$3,000 a year," S. Margaret said, "so I thought, couldn't we use this money in a targeted way?" From that, the Faculty Development Small Grants Program developed. Additionally, S. Margaret instituted the honors

program, a study abroad course and the Founders Day Lecture. "I'm in a funny position because next October it's not my job, but the plan for Founders Day has to be made before June 30," she said. "All these things I'm doing for the last time. It's a funny feeling."

One job she will not miss doing for the last time is deciding whether to close the Brooklyn Campus during a snowstorm, which



STUDENT RECOLLECTIONS,

"For the [alumni] of SJC who have pursued a career in secondary education, much is owed to S. Margaret Buckley. From our mini-lessons in the classroom to our student teaching at Brooklyn Tech, S. Margaret was always there for each of us. Through her guidance, we learned how to put theory into practice and through her wit and wisdom, we learned how to make lessons come alive. As a student, I can still remember her instruction, suggestions and advice on how to craft a strong lesson plan. I admire and respect S. Margaret's ability to have her pulse on the finger of education. Her wealth of knowledge in her field, her dedication to her students and her passion for education are inspiring and part of the many memories we have of our times with S. Margaret. Her legacy can be found in the many classrooms in which SJC students now teach."

— Dr. Anne Mulligan, Class of 1975
Education Lecturer at the Brooklyn Campus

"S. Margaret was a great inspiration to me. As a teacher, I learned a great deal from her, and she provided me with the skills necessary to be an educator who is able to meet the needs of today's students."

"S. Margaret, as both professor and dean, showed compassion for all, and truly lived according to Christ's example."

— Patrick Mahon, Class of 2008
Social studies teacher at Mary Louis Academy



usually involves waking up at 4:30 a.m. to make a decision. "I'm not a morning person, so it's very clear to me I will not miss that job," she said.

Fortunately, one job she will not have to miss is teaching, since she will still have an active role in the education department, serving as associate chair.

"I am delighted that she will continue to serve as a member of the education department and that we will continue to benefit from her wisdom and insights for years to come," S. Elizabeth said.

"In a way, I'm glad I'm going to be able to teach, and I think that's

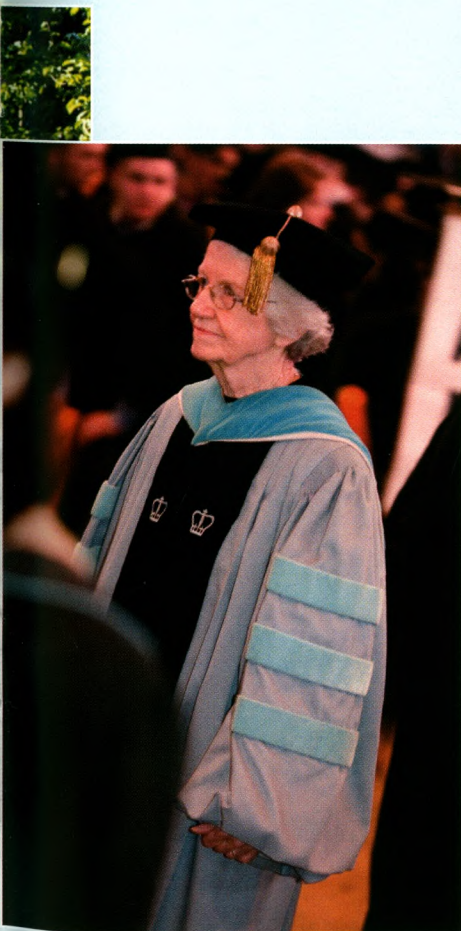
easier for me because I've never stopped," S. Margaret said. "That was a choice that I made. I didn't want to give it up. I liked teaching. I liked contact with the students. I also thought that teaching gives you some credibility with the faculty. You share their experiences. You understand the nature of the student population. I liked it, even though sometimes the two jobs did compete with each other."

Though S. Margaret has done so much over so many years, when asked what her most memorable moment at SJC has been, she answered: "I enjoy graduation every

year, seeing students who have achieved their goal." S. Margaret, who has witnessed more than 40 Brooklyn Campus commencement ceremonies, including one as a graduate herself in 1955, will participate in her last as academic dean later this month. She will address the graduates and receive an honorary Doctor of Letters degree.

"S. Margaret's intelligence, integrity, competence, generosity of spirit and dedication have served her alma mater stupendously well over many years," added S. Mary Florence. "Shakespeare will nod approvingly if we adapt his words, 'We shall not look upon her like again.'" ■

PAST AND PRESENT



"Since my first day at St. Joseph's College, I have been privileged to have an academic dean like S. Margaret. She has encouraged students to strive for excellence throughout her years at St. Joseph's. She truly exemplifies the motto *Esse non videri*. S. Margaret, thank you for your service. You will be greatly missed."

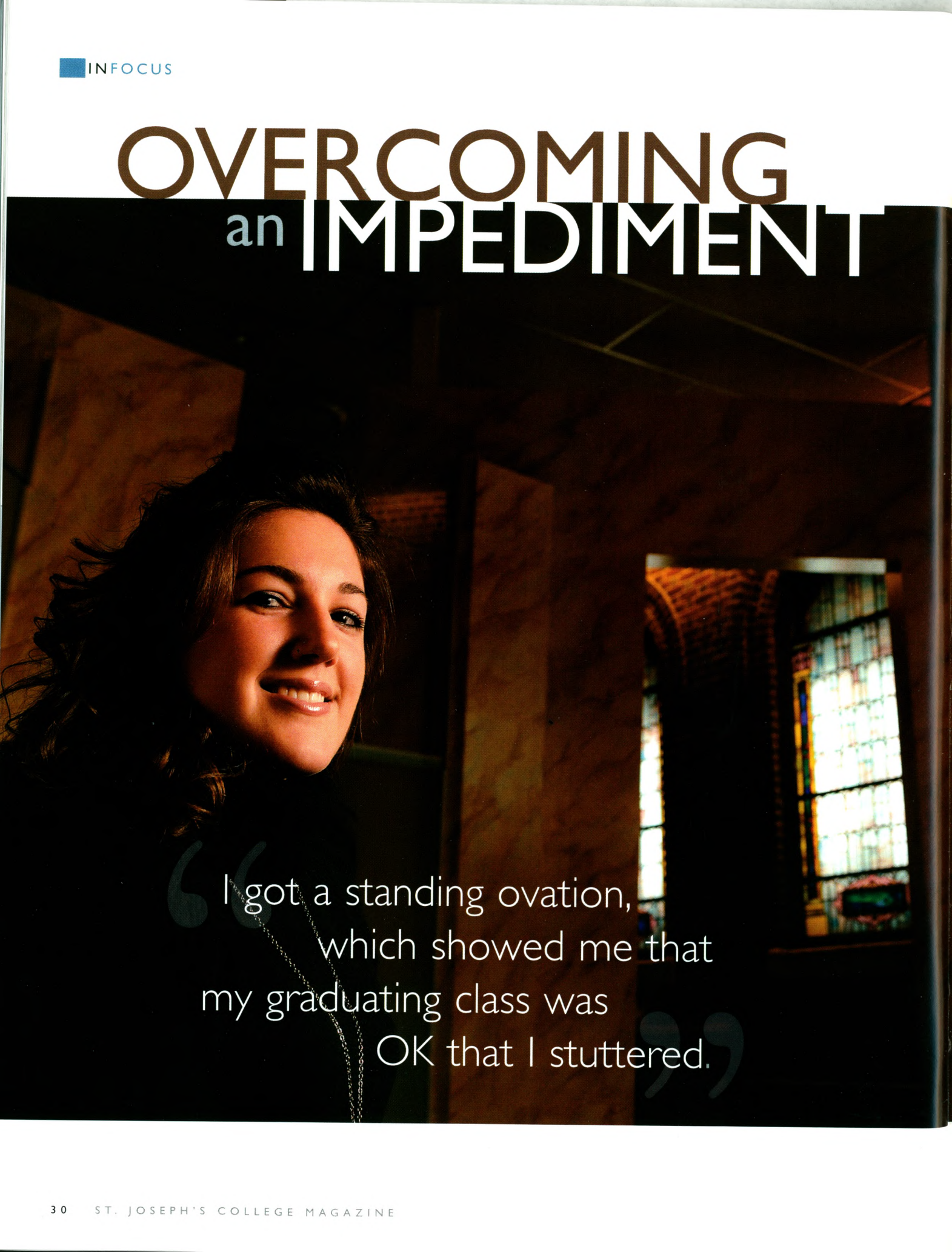
— Robert Pinnisi, Class of 2014
(last freshman class to have S. Margaret as dean)

"I transferred to St. Joseph's College in the fall of 1978 because I wanted to become a secondary education teacher. I had S. Margaret for the General Methods course with six other students and Special Methods in English course by myself. Talk about transforming lives one student at a time. Oy vey! I had those classes back to back and I called it 'Marathon Margaret' (as she reminded me recently).

"S. Margaret was instrumental in getting my first teaching job at St. Edmund's High School in Brooklyn. Her care for each student and St. Joseph's College is more clear to me now that I am much older and a tad wiser and have the privilege to work with her. I am happy that she will still be involved with the college for years to come."

— Mike McGrann, Class of 1980
Director of Security at the Brooklyn Campus

OVERCOMING an IMPEDIMENT

A photograph of a young woman with dark, curly hair, smiling and looking slightly to the right. She is wearing a dark top. The background is a dimly lit room with large, arched windows that look like stained glass, letting in some light. The overall mood is warm and positive.

“I got a standing ovation,
which showed me that
my graduating class was
OK that I stuttered.”



Len Rubenstein

by Chris Gasiewski • cgasiewski@sjcny.edu

Nina Zito first noticed it when she was in fourth grade. Having a difficult time speaking, she began to stutter.

Years later, and after several treatments that included speech therapy, hypnotism, acupuncture and consultations with vitamin specialists, the communication disorder hasn't subsided.

She has become acclimated to it, though. And it hasn't slowed her throughout her collegiate career or life.

When she graduates from the Brooklyn Campus later this month, Ms. Zito will leave Clinton Hill with a bevy of accomplishments to go with her bachelor's in child study. This past academic year, she served as Student Government Association president and was a member of Campus Ministry and a national honor society.

As a freshman and sophomore, she was editor-in-chief of the yearbook and *The Spirit* student newspaper. She also joined the Paesanos (Italian-American), Student Ambassadors, Child Study and business clubs. Her impediment never discouraged her from pursuing her interests.

"Everyone at the College looks past the fact that I stutter," she said. "Everyone was very open and very accepting of the fact that I stutter. Everyone overlooked that."

Stuttering is incurable. According to the Stuttering Foundation of America, it's an impediment that affects more than 68 million people worldwide (more than three million in the U.S.), which includes a long list of celebrities such as actor James Earl Jones, Vice President Joe Biden and NBA Hall of Famer Bill Walton.

Ms. Zito is included. Admittedly self-conscious, her disorder really began to surface while in the 11th grade at St. Agnes High School in College Point. She saw a speech therapist once a week and received great support from the therapist, her parents and her English teacher.

"I am a person that takes everything to heart," she said. "I'm a very nervous person. I have no control over it."

Perhaps, but she was welcomed and embraced by everyone she encountered at St. Agnes and SJC.

In high school, a small institution of about 400 girls, she was the salutatorian of her class. Nerves certainly overcame her when she spoke at graduation.

"It was in front of 500-plus people," she said. "I had air coming out of my mouth. There was nothing. I was really lucky no one made fun of me."

No one did, and her speech was well received.

"I got a standing ovation, which showed me that my graduating class was OK that I stuttered. I was really overwhelmed. Everyone was crying and hugging me afterward."

She encountered that same environment months later at the Brooklyn Campus.

"This is a warm and welcoming community," she said. "Everyone knows everyone else. It's extremely vibrant."

Ms. Zito said she never pictured herself as SGA president, and she received a wealth of encouragement from the student population during her campaign.

She also hopes to receive the same support during her career, where she plans to teach in an elementary school while pursuing SJC's M.A. in Literacy and Cognition.

It's that support that has helped her achieve all of her academic and personal goals so far.

"The one thing I never want is people to pity me," she said. "That's the worst."

"Over the summer, I went to the National Stuttering Association conference, and people there are way worse off than I am. I don't want people to say, 'I feel bad for her,' 'cause I stutter." ■

by Brendan Carey • bcarey@sjcny.edu

One wouldn't expect the executive vice president and chief operating officer of the North Shore-LIJ Health System to find the time to posit theories on teaching methods at the graduate level. But a rigorous mind operates outside the confines of what one might normally expect of a man who spends 60 hours a week as a high-ranking executive in the region's most ubiquitous health system.

Mark Solazzo is an adjunct professor on the Long Island Campus in the School of Professional and Graduate Studies. He teaches Health Care Services and Systems in the M.B.A. in Health Care Management program. But this is not your typical course. If you're looking for a traditional, three-hour lecture, Mr. Solazzo is not your type of professor.

"That's probably one of the most boring classes anyone is going to take," he said. "If you look at how people learn, especially today's generation, they learn differently. Case-based learning, individual learning. People retain better if they're trying to figure out the answer.

"You've got to try and lead and coach and not drag people along. You've got to make it tangible."

To make it tangible, Mr. Solazzo incorporates field trips into his curriculum. He believes that exposing students to the environments they will experience during their careers is invaluable. The trips mirror what the course material is covering at that point in the semester, further compounding retention.

"So when we're talking about quality, I take them to a patient-simulation center to show them why quality is important, to show them quality in action. When we're talking about public health, I take them to an emergency-management command center, to show them what public health in action is all about, so that way they can see it in real life."

Mr. Solazzo explained that this is what makes it alive for his students — it is an experience that you simply cannot replicate by lecturing and assigning readings. His method has been refined in his three semesters at SJC. And it's been just as much of a learning experience for him as it has for his students.

"Teaching is not easy. A lot of people underestimate the commitment to being able to do it the right way, and

I learned that very quickly the first year," he said. "There's a lot of preparation if you want to do this the right way. But once you get there, and the interaction with the students, I learn something every day from them."

The Bronx native was on a path to become a doctor himself when he realized that practicing medicine wasn't for him. He left Albany Medical College and started working for New York State Social Services while working toward his master's in health systems management at Union College in Schenectady at night. He now supervises a workforce of more than 38,000 employees at North Shore-LIJ. He finds time for teaching because it is something he always wanted to do.

"In the position I'm in here, you're teaching all the time. You're managing, but what you're trying to do is teach people," he said. "You're trying to teach employees about the visions, the values of the organization. You're trying to teach managers how to be better managers. And so I think it's a natural extension."

Mr. Solazzo's method of exposing students to the types of settings they'll see during their careers is also evident in the work they do in the classroom. He assigns a semester-long project to his students each term in which they are broken into groups that represent real health systems.

"There's a CEO, a CFO, a nurse executive, a medical director, and they play those roles," he said. "We give them a problem and they have to use the course materials to present on how they're going to look at that problem."

The past two semesters, the groups were asked to build presentations about what their health systems would look like in 2020, and how they would meet the challenges presented to them in the interim. It's an interesting project, and one that Mr. Solazzo is very passionate about. After all, it meshes well with his teaching philosophy.

"[North Shore-LIJ] just went through a year-and-a-half process to establish a medical school [with Hofstra University]. And so when we went through that process we looked at the most effective ways for students to learn, and it's all case based," he said. "Discovery is really important. If you have to go through the process of discovery to find the answer, you'll remember it. That in itself is the learning process." ■

LEARNING THRO



Robert Amster

UGH**DISCOVERY**

“It’s interesting to be involved in something like this at a time when there are not a lot of people interested, which didn’t discourage me.”

ANSWERING THE CALL

by Chris Gasiewski • cgasiewski@sjcny.edu



Sandro da Luz will graduate in the coming weeks, but he won't be heading directly into a career that his degree is geared toward.

James Renna graduated in 2010, yet also never touched the profession that his bachelor's suits.

Instead, both have entered the seminary to become priests. Mr. da Luz began studying in fall 2010 at the Cathedral Seminary Residence of the Immaculate Conception in Douglaston. Mr. Renna has been at the Seminary of the Immaculate Conception in Huntington since August.

Their choice is certainly uncommon in these days, so it's easy to pose the question: "What sparked this interest?"

"I felt that maybe I'm called to do it, and I should give it consideration," said Mr. da Luz, who will receive a B.S. in Mathematics and Computer Science on May 31. "It's interesting to be involved in something like this at a time when there are not a lot of people interested, which didn't discourage me."

Mr. Renna said: "When the seminary used to have 300 people, it wasn't a strange thing that someone was following the call. You basically give up everything to be poor and obedient. It was a tough decision.

"The first inkling I got was when I was 14 years old, and it took me until I was 20 [to make a final decision]. At first it was complete denial, but the call recurred and recurred. I had been built to do this and the more I accept the call, the happier I am."

Mr. da Luz has been close to the church his entire life. He went to Trinity Regional School and Holy Family School in Commack before high school at St. John the Baptist in West Islip. He also was an alter server at Christ the King Roman Catholic Church, also in Commack.

"Last spring, I went on a retreat with Bishop William Murphy [leader of the Diocese of Rockville Centre] about vocations," he said. "Through prayer and learning more about what the seminary was like, I thought it was worth it to give it a shot and take the step."

Mr. da Luz also said his work with the Long Island Campus Newman Club, course work, scriptures and conversations with Assistant Professor of Business Administration and Accounting Ralph Nofi, whom he has built a friendship with, played a factor.

Mr. Renna took a different path, one that really was set while attending Kellenberg Memorial High School.

"I started asking questions," he said. "Is this really the [Holy] Eucharist? Is Mary really the blessed mother? Does she help people through prayer? That set the stage for the important questions."

The Hewlett native also said he fell in love with Jesus in November 2007 while pursuing a B.A. in English at the Long Island Campus.

"I knew I absolutely wanted to get into the seminary to set myself apart from the world enough to pray about this call and see if the Lord would speak to me," the former Sigma Xi Epsilon fraternity president said. "It's been awesome."

Mr. da Luz was just as welcoming. And both are dedicated to continue following their faith once entering priesthood.

"I hope to be in a good parish that's welcoming to a new priest," Mr. da Luz said. "To have various opportunities to help people spiritually or whatever way I can. I hope to be able to get out there and do what a priest does when given an assignment." ■

Sandro da Luz (left) and James Renna

Photo by Robert Amsler

ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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Daria Tator '03
Patricia Villa '99, M '02
Catherine Vitucci '04

ALUMNICONNECTIONS

Class Notes

1930s

Madeline Porpora Scotto '36 is 96 years old and taught mathematics for 50 years. She still coaches first- through eighth-grade students for their Mental Math Bee Competition.

1940s

Virginia Worgull Davis '42 was a freshman sister to poet, literary critic and essayist **Marie Birmingham Ponsot '40** in 1938 and hopes that she is doing well.

1950s

Ann Oliva Apollo keeps in touch with Class of 1951 classmates **Geraldine Hanlon Weiss**, **Margaret Simonelli LaCerra**, **Grace Arnone Marra**, **Gloria Lopez Bruschini**, **Gertrude Agoglia** and **Dorothy Sauss Babyak** via telephone. She gives her heartfelt thanks to **Claire MacVenn Dillon** for all of her hard work on behalf of the Class of 1951.

Suzanne M. Gannon Murphy '51 enjoys retirement and her grandchildren. She looks forward to the 60th class reunion.

Geraldine Weiss '51 spends summers on Shelter Island and the rest of the year in Vermont. She would like classmates to visit. While in New York, she meets with some her classmates at least once during the summer.

Jean Vallone Gagliardo '51 is a retired New York City teacher, local and state officer for the Order Sons of Italy in America (OSIA). She is an Italian heritage culture and language chairperson for OSIA for New York State and a religious education teacher at Our Lady of Mercy Church in Hicksville. She has two granddaughters, **Lisa '09** and **Christina Gagliardo '10**, alumnae from the Long Island Campus.

Carol Clark Lynch '55 and her husband celebrated their 56th wedding anniversary with a cruise around New Zealand. They have 17 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Marilyn Forte Obert-Thorn '56 is president of the New Hyde Park North Lions Club for 2010-2011. She is a retired teacher

from the Patchogue-Medford School District and volunteers a decent portion of her time. She has five children and 13 grandchildren.

1960s

Joan Marie Conway '65 was named Washingtonian of the Year by www.washingtonian.com for her volunteer work at the St. Camillus Catholic Church food pantry in Silver Spring, MD.

Joanne Miscione Hadlock '67 published *Yard Sale Savvy*, the ultimate guide to yard sale bargains, deals and fun.

Mary Beth Ambrose Sigal '68 lives with her husband, Rich, in Corolla, NC. They have two granddaughters.

Christine O'Brien-Petit '69 retired last June and moved to Gilbert, AZ, with her husband, Bernie.

1970s

Mary Ann Haick DiNapoli '75 spoke about the Arab-American community around Atlantic Avenue at the Mid-Manhattan Library. Her daughter, **Madeline DiNapoli**, is a sophomore at SJC.

Patricia Sappraicone Boris '77 and her husband, Edward, celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary by renewing vows last November at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church on St. John, United States Virgin Islands.

1980s

Bernard Wheatley '83 received the American College of Healthcare Executives Regent's Senior Executive Award in February. He is the vice president of operations at Athens Regional Medical Center in Georgia and a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives (FACHE). He is also a member of the Georgia Piedmont Plateau Regent's Advisory Council, the National Association of Health Service Executives and the Georgia Association of Healthcare Executives. He is an avid volunteer and was a former board member of the Athens Area Child Abuse Prevention Council, the



Alumni Scrapbook



Alumni living in the Fort Myers and Jupiter, FL, areas enjoyed luncheons with SJC President S. Elizabeth A. Hill, C.S.J., J.D., during her recent visit.



The Thomas A. Doherty Ethical Leadership Award for the Long Island Campus was presented to Robert Larson, M.B.A. '08, at the 10th Annual Graduate Management Studies Dinner held on March 3 at Butera's in Sayville.



Brooklyn alumni turned out for the annual Alumni Hoops Night in January.



Following the tradition, Brooklyn alumni gathered to celebrate the holiday season with Home for the Holidays in December.



The Brooklyn Office of Alumni Relations hosted a Home Ownership and Financing Workshop on March 11, facilitated by David Bailey, founder and president of The Mortgage Outlet.



Donald Patterson '08, security captain of operations for the U.N., received the Thomas A. Doherty Ethical Leadership Award at the Brooklyn Campus' Master's Graduate Dinner in March at Graziella's Restaurant.

Donning the green, SJC alumni, students and friends marched in the St. Patrick's Day Parade along Manhattan's Fifth Avenue.



American Red Cross, the Athens Tutorial Service and the Morton Theatre. Bernard currently serves on the board of the Northeast Georgia Boy Scout Executive Council.

1990s

Justine Guggino Buonovolonta '92 and her sister, **Tonya Guggino Stahlmann '95**, each earned an Educational Leadership Post-Master's Advanced Graduate Certificate from Stony Brook University. Justine and Tonya have dual-certification in special education (birth-21) and elementary education (kindergarten-sixth grade) from SJC. Justine is a special education teacher and Tonya is an elementary education teacher, both in the Commack School District. They both are married, have two children and live in Miller Place.

William Hicks '92 was appointed chief operating officer for Lincoln Medical and Mental Health Center.

Frank P. Lunati '95 graduated from the Ross University School of Medicine.

Brian Callaghan '96 recently published *The Seeds of Cain*, a part-horror, part-fantasy novel that follows the tale of four heroes and their quest to save a life.

Eileen Coffey Gerard '96 was presented with the Founders' Spirit Award

for her contributions to the health care industry at the 2010 New York State Health Care Providers Conference.

Katherine Rupp '96 was named to the *Long Island Business News* 2011 40 Under 40 list of top business professionals. She is the president of her own strategic marketing firm, Exclamation, LLC.

2000s

Cesar W. Caro, Jr. '04 was appointed associate director of the Long Island Builder's Institute Board of Directors in December. He has been regional leadership commissioner for the Northeast to Delta Sigma Phi Fraternity since December 2009. Cesar and his wife, Sue, live in East Yaphank with their children, Evan Matthew and Emma Grace. They are loyal parishioners at St. Jude's Catholic Church.

Congratulations to **Robin Fiala '04** and her husband, Eric, on the birth of their fourth son, Alexander Owen, last July. They have three additional sons: Scott, Ryan and Zachary.

Chirley Ventura '04 was recently engaged.

Best wishes to **Jonathan Bobin '05** and Johcalyn Hollis, who wed last November. He is a New York City police officer. They live in New Springville.

Congratulations to **Gabriella Kolessar '07**, who married Andrew Boutsikakis last October. She is a speech and language pathologist and lives in Dongan Hill.

Krystal Schweimler '07 earned a Master's in Library and Information Science from St. John's University. She works in *TIME's* research department.

Best wishes to **Joanna Vitale '08** and James Berberich Jr., who were married in October. She is a pre-kindergarten teacher for Family Service League Preschool in Huntington. They live in Patchogue. ■

In Memoriam

Alumni

Jane Walsh DiPaola '39
Frances Donohue '42
Olga Marzano '42
Eileen A. Mullen '44
Mary Ellen Dowd Orr '46
Gloria Wagner Erhart '47
Ann Bennett Breuel '48
Elizabeth McLoughlin '49
Barbara C. Hawke '51
Lucretia Panzarella Rowley '51
Mary Schlusser Regan '54
Carol Hadek Garrity '56
Doris Jacklitsch '56
Regina M. Miller '56
Mary Mone Dorney '70
Rita Ellen Guare '71
Evelyn Celi '81
Willa Suber-Cuestas '82
Elsie Callender McGillvery '83
Lucy Zammit '84
Lillie Williams-Burrell '92
Danilene Bruno-Leone Foehl '96

Friends and Family

Marie-Grace Abagnalo, mother of Amelia Abagnalo Kreitsch '70
Charles S. Barillari, nephew of Teresa Civello '65
Jeff Braverman, son-in-law of Linda Incorvaia Fonte '75
Frances Cammarota, father of Elizabeth Cammarota Zullo '71
Thomas DiAngelo, grandfather of Lisa Galasso '08, Office of Business Affairs, L.I. Campus
Florence Falconetti, mother of Maria Falconetti '70
Virginia A. Hilbert, mother of Mary Herold '98, assistant dean for academic advisement in the School of Professional and Graduate Studies, L.I. Campus
Catherine Loughran '91, former senior adjunct professor, L.I. Campus
Charles Martinek, husband of Irene Lahey Martinek '49
Adrienne Miller, sister of Karen Mueller '73 ■

Win an Academy Award recently? Tour the nation promoting your latest rock album? Promoted to vice president of a major corporation? We'd love to hear about it and print your latest and greatest news in Class Notes. Send your items to your class agent or to the Office of Print and Digital Communications at magazine@sjcny.edu. Please indicate your graduation year.

MAY

1-15 Don't Tell Mother by Monk Ferris

May 6, 7, 13, 14 — 8 p.m.; May 1, 15 — 3 p.m.
Clare Rose Playhouse, L.I. Campus

27 SJC College Night with the Long Island Ducks

Pre-game barbecue at 5:30 p.m., game at 7 p.m.
\$10, Bethpage Ballpark, Central Islip
Sponsored by the L.I. Offices of Alumni Relations, Student Activities and Co-Curricular Programs and the Senior Class Representatives

28 Brooklyn Commencement

11 a.m., The New York Marriott at the Brooklyn Bridge

31 Long Island Commencement

3 p.m., Nassau Coliseum, Uniondale

JUNE

1 Big Shot Summer Kick-Off Concert

See ad on page 43

6 SJC Golf Classic

Honoring Michael E. Ryan, president of The LandTek Group, Inc.
Plandome Country Club, Plandome
Sponsored by the Office of Institutional Advancement

7 The Business Vision of the Future

Business expo from 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
John A. Danzi Athletic Center, L.I. Campus
Sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Student Life, Department of Business Administration and Accounting in collaboration with the Suffolk County Executive Office of Minority Affairs, Suffolk County Minority Business Development Council and the Suffolk County Women's Business Enterprise Coalition

11 Long Island Wine Tasting Tour

See ad on page 43

16 Coast-to-Coast Bike Tour Send-Off Reception

Brooklyn Campus
Sponsored by the Brooklyn Office of Alumni Relations

18, 19 Coast-to-Coast Bike Tour Reception and Take Off

Both events are in San Francisco.

JULY

8 - 24 An Evening of One-Act Comedies

July 8, 9, 15, 16, 22, 23 — 8 p.m.; July 10, 17, 24 — 3 p.m.
Clare Rose Playhouse, L.I. Campus

EVENTS CALENDAR

SPRING 2011

Office of Alumni Relations

B: 718.940.5576 / L.I.: 631.687.2653

Office of Special Events: 631.687.2655

For a complete listing of events,
visit the College website at www.sjcnny.edu.

A DAY AT THE RACES

Belmont Park



September 24, 2011

(watch your mail for details)

Lunch at noon

Call some friends and
have a mini-reunion
at the races.

Everyone is welcome.

For further information, contact the
Brooklyn Office of Alumni Relations at
718.940.5576 or alumni@sjcnny.edu.

The Story of Janet Labuda '74, Former U.S. Customs Agent

by Brendan Carey • bcarey@sjcny.edu



In the summer of 1983, U.S. Customs and Border Protection was changing protocol. Janet Labuda '74 was in her third year as a customs officer, investigating cargo at John F. Kennedy International Airport for contraband and illegal substances. The bureau had just instituted a new policy, known as Red/Green, that was created to expedite the process of going through customs. Travelers were given a choice: to claim something, get on the red line; to not, green.

On July 5, 1983, just weeks after, Ms. Labuda, working the green line, made a massive drug bust — four pounds of pure heroin, a multimillion dollar seizure.

Her success did not go unnoticed. At the recommendation of her supervisors, she took a reassignment in Washington, D.C. “Managers started talking to me about going down to headquarters to broaden my exposure to the agency,” she said. “And so that’s what I ultimately did.”

The Brooklyn Campus graduate started her career with U.S. Customs after teaching high school history at Stella Maris High School in Rockaway. Looking for a change, she jumped at an opportunity to join the agency in 1980 and was quickly recruited for the new Contraband Enforcement Team.

“This was kind of a time when illegal drugs started to really expand coming through the ports,” she said. “More and more women were getting involved in the smuggling of drugs, so I was asked to be on this team.”

Two days into the job, after her 13-week training course, Ms. Labuda seized 20 pounds of marijuana at JFK. She didn’t stop there. Leading up to her historic heroin seizure, she participated in many other seizures of various goods, including commercial merchandise and cocaine.

A position at customs headquarters in Washington, D.C., was the obvious next step. “They just felt I could

make a difference at the national level,” she said. “As soon as you go to Washington, your work has national application, and in some cases international application.”

She went on to become the director of the Textile/Apparel Policy and Programs Division in the Office of International Trade from 2006 until her retirement on January 1. Aside from the major federal offices that permeate the headlines to the point of national ubiquity, most government agencies and departments operate outside the public eye. Ms. Labuda spent her entire 30-year career in these obscure divisions of border protection doing hugely important things, mainly regarding trade.

“One of the main responsibilities of the customs service is to collect import duties,” she explained. “We collect close to 30 to 35 billion dollars in duties every year and 47 percent of that collection comes from textiles products. So close to half of everything that the agency collects is in this industry.”

About \$105 billion worth of textile products is imported into the United States each year. Textiles are anything made of cloth or fabric (e.g., clothing, drapes, carpet, bed sheets). Ms. Labuda was responsible for supervising the importation of all these materials.

“There are very, very strict controls on textile products,” she said. “[My] division is responsible for the nationwide enforcement of all the laws to ensure that tariffs are collected, that the values are accurate and that the country of origin is correct.”

Besides the obvious international implications of charging foreign exporters import duties, Ms. Labuda also led negotiations for free-trade agreements with the governments of Singapore, Australia and Morocco. What she considers to be her biggest professional accomplishment is still ongoing.

“About a year and a half ago I created an operation called Operation Mirage, looking at the undervaluation of Chinese textiles coming into the United States,” she said. “[It has] major, complex, broad implications. I think the complexities of national economic security has been the biggest challenge and really the most fun.”

Though technically retired, Ms. Labuda is still actively consulting on various projects. She has gone a long way since her days at SJC, where she majored in history and became the first person in her family to receive a college degree.

“Having a good grounding in a liberal arts education gives you the ability to communicate well, write well,” she said. “SJC pushed you to think outside the box.” ■

DR. THOMAS CHADZUTKO '77 ATTEMPTS TO PRESERVE CATHOLIC EDUCATION

by Chris Gasiewski • cgasiewski@sjcny.edu



As Superintendent of Catholic School Support Services, Thomas Chadzutko, Ph.D., has complete oversight of the services in each school within the Diocese of Brooklyn. He has a staff with expertise in various areas, including curriculum, assessment and government programs.

Recently, though, the immediate future has controlled Dr. Chadzutko's time and energy.

In a time of financial uncertainty, when enrollments have decreased, he has focused significantly on helping support a three-to-five year strategic plan. The plan, "Preserving the Vision," which was championed by the Most Reverend Frank Caggiano, vicar general of the Diocese of Brooklyn, and also supported by Secretary for Catholic Education and Formation S. Angela Gannon, is an annual report released in February 2010 that maps the goals and direction necessary to help stabilize Catholic education in Brooklyn.

It's not an easy task, especially with so many unknown factors.

"It's a hectic time," said Dr. Chadzutko, who graduated from the Brooklyn Campus with a B.A. in English in 1977. "It's been tough. The demographics in Brooklyn are changing. The financial situation has been affecting people. People want a Catholic education, but they can't afford it."

Administrators at private and Catholic schools across the country have all felt this in recent months. Finances and the ability to finance the schools are the main issues affecting Catholic education. Enrollments are decreasing, and the dire economic outlook has forced some to rely more heavily on government programs and initiatives, a strategy seldom used when Dr. Chadzutko joined the diocese as district superintendent in 1994.

Then, working for the late Msgr. Guy Puglisi, who served as superintendent of schools until his untimely death in 2003, the focus was more assessment based.

"Monsignor Puglisi was super," Dr. Chadzutko said. "There was a lot of encouragement to continue the Catholic education.

"Enrollment-wise, things were stable. It's a changing of the times. The same things were important. But now test

scores — and how we interpret test scores — and how we make sure teachers are prepared have become the focus."

So has the development of principals within the diocese's schools, educating them on the latest trends. Dr. Chadzutko said he looks at his staff as a veteran team with experienced opinions, something he learned from the close-knit community at St. Joseph's.

"A lot of my foundation and encouragement came from St. Joe's," Dr. Chadzutko said. "I don't want to bash other higher institutions, but it was the atmosphere that you could always talk to someone there."

After SJC, Dr. Chadzutko became an English teacher at Holy Cross Elementary School in Maspeth. He then took the principal position at Blessed Sacrament in Cypress Hill before joining the diocese in 1994.

"I never knew I would get to this level," he said of his current position. "It was the foundation I received at St. Joe's."

"Catholic education was what I wanted, but I never knew I would get to this level."

He did, and now his focus is as advanced as his position.

Through ongoing strategic planning, he said he hopes to help stabilize enrollment and build the future of the diocese's schools. In "Preserving the Vision," Rev. Caggiano calls for several significant goals to achieve success, including building partnerships, establishing a two-tier governance model of members and directors in new academies, strengthening the Catholic identity and continuing to promote and enhance academic excellence throughout programs.

"All of this stuff goes hand-in-glove in making sure this is the vision. That's the critical piece," Dr. Chadzutko said. "The bottom line is I want to make sure that Catholic education is strong for years to come." ■



MICHAEL PETERS '79 • COLD CASE: HOUSTON

by Brendan Carey • bcarey@sjcny.edu

 **H**omicide investigations are arduous and exhaustive. Vital information must be obtained within hours of the crime to give investigators a chance to make an arrest. Investigators often go without sleep as they track down leads. Michael Peters '79 has experienced this. The Houston Police Department veteran spent 15 years as a homicide detective and now investigates unsolved cases in the city's cold case unit.

Mr. Peters graduated from the College in 1979 with a degree in human relations. At the time, the heart of SJC's L.I. Campus was located in Brentwood. It's a time he remembers fondly. "I really enjoyed my time there [at the Brentwood Campus], and consider it the best years of schooling I ever had," he said.

Two years after he graduated, the Patchogue native accepted a position as a patrol officer with the Houston Police. He's been on a steady ascent through the ranks since.

Many Americans will remember the early 1980s as a time of great economic uncertainty as an energy crisis helped to create a deep recession. As in the current recession, jobs were hard to come by. Many people like Mr. Peters had to get creative and look to different regions to find work. "Houston was booming back in that era," he said of his adopted hometown.

In 1989, after eight years as a patrolman in the southeastern part of the city, he took a test to become a sergeant. "I was lucky," he said. "I got interviewed for homicide and got accepted."

He spent 15 years in homicide, often dealing with grueling overnight hours as he worked the evening shift on Houston's murder cases. When the cold case unit opened in 2006, he jumped at the chance to be a part of it. "Being up all night was killing me," Mr. Peters said. "As you get older that gets harder to do."

His work now is no less painstaking, it's just more calculated. "A new murder is a lot more work because your time is

critical," he said. "Things have to be done now, people have to be talked to now, evidence has to be collected now."

Cold cases are different, he said. There are about 3,000 open murder cases in Houston, and many of them took place prior to the advent of forensic DNA testing. There are limitations, as one would expect in decades-old murder investigations. Witnesses and suspects die or move away. The process takes more time.

"Another problem is lost evidence, or evidence that was improperly stored," Mr. Peters said. "You'll read a great report, and get excited thinking that you can do something with the case, and when you go to the property room either the evidence is not there, or it's degraded."

In some instances, it takes 20 years or more to close a case. Last year, Mr. Peters' unit worked on "a love-triangle type murder," from 1989. The original investigators had a strong idea who committed the crime, but there was not enough evidence to indict. "That was years before people thought much about DNA evidence," he said. "But they did collect blood that was found in the victim's car and [we] were able to process the blood sample and we found the suspect and got him charged and arrested."

It often takes about a year to close a case, sometimes longer. Due to the difficulties associated with cold cases, success is never assured. "Many cases can not be cleared because there is no evidence, no witnesses and no known suspect."

Mr. Peters credits his degree in human relations and his time at the College for providing him with a strong foundation in understanding human sociology — a critical aspect of his profession.

"The number one thing you deal with as a policeman is people. And I think that degree enabled me to have insight to understand where people were coming from, the problems they were having and how they affected them," he said. "I just think [human relations] is a great degree for this line of work. I think it gave me a leg up." ■

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A Day in the Life: Yliane Ulloa

by Brendan Carey • bcarey@sjcny.edu

Early on in her senior season as the outside hitter on the Lady Bears volleyball team, Yliane Ulloa found herself in a familiar situation. Lying on the court, writhing in pain, she was looking at another extended absence due to injury. It would be her second serious injury in as many seasons. She was understandably frustrated.

"It was hard because as a senior, of course you want to play," she said. "It was really gruesome because my ankle was really swollen and I couldn't walk and I had crutches — yet again."

SJC trainers worked with her every day for a week to get the swelling under control and minimize her pain. It was nothing new for Ms. Ulloa — she was out for most of her junior season because of a torn left calf. The latter was an injury that would prepare her to deal with future adversity. Spending half a season on the sidelines watching the sport you love is not an enviable position for a competitive athlete. But the time she spent sitting and observing has helped her develop as a player and as a leader.

"It gave me a new perspective to see the game from," she said of her time on the sidelines. "It made me appreciate the game that much more."

While she was relegated to clipboard duties, Ms. Ulloa did not take a backseat. You can tell within moments

of meeting her that she is outgoing and confident. She speaks clearly and looks at you when she talks to you. It's apparent that she is not one to quietly sit, watch and take notes. She aspires to one day possibly coach at an advanced level, and for good reason: she's a natural.

"It was a good experience because I'd like to become a coach later on," she said. "But it was also a good experience because when you're sitting on the sideline you can see that it's those little errors that no one else notices except those people on the outside, that if we did tighten up, we'd be so much better."

It was time well spent. After her latest setback this season in an October match against Farmingdale State in a tournament on the Long Island Campus, Ms. Ulloa came back with a vengeance. Thanks to the relentless work of the training staff, she was only out for one week and helped lead the Lady Bears to an upset victory over top-ranked Sarah Lawrence in the first round of the Hudson Valley Women's Athletic Conference tournament in November.

But for college athletes like Ms. Ulloa, it is what they do outside the confines of the sports arena that defines who they are. It could be said had she never gotten hurt, she would not have had the opportunity to develop the leadership abilities that have been so vital to her development. It's an interesting thought, especially considering her place as a role model in all other aspects of her life, be that as a student, sister, teacher or friend.

Ms. Ulloa works for an after-school program at P.S. 169 in Prospect Park. She's a psychology major with a 3.9 GPA and a certificate in criminal justice, and working with at-risk youth and adolescents is one of her ambitions. Combined with those leadership skills that she cultivated on the volleyball

team, she's blossomed into the type of centered, all-around person that you'd want your kids to spend time with during their most impressionable years.

Despite how much she enjoys motivating, life isn't a volleyball match, and it's important to take a step back when dealing with fifth graders. "My kids, especially at the ages that they are, they don't take well to authority," she said. "Sometimes you give them the tools and you tell them what you have to tell them, but you have to step back and just see what they'll do with it."

Providing them with space to make their own decisions but still giving them the guidance they need is a big part of their development, Ms. Ulloa said. "I tell them, this is what I expect of you as a fifth grader, this what I expect of you as your contribution to the after-school program and this is what you should expect of yourself."

"I try to just sit back and watch, almost like when I was coaching. I'd sit back and watch and see where I can tighten up here and there," she said. "They want to do it and they need someone to let them do it, to let them be their own leaders in a sense."

While graduate school is absolutely in her future, Ms. Ulloa intends to train as an emergency medical technician (EMT) this summer. She hopes to attend school while working full time, so she'll be busy, but doesn't expect to lose touch with her roots at SJC — not with a new gym on the way. Though she admits to being upset that she won't be a student when the facility opens, she's excited for the future of the program that she has helped build into an annual competitor.

"It's bittersweet. But we finally get our own home, and I'll come and watch," she said, and then added, with a laugh: "And who knows? Maybe by then I'll coach." ■

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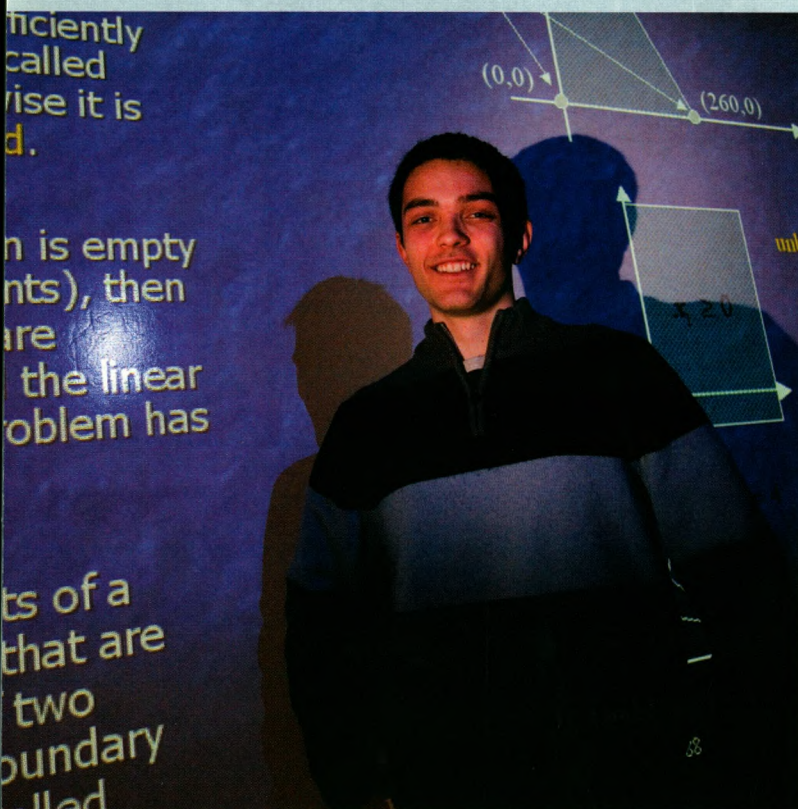
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